

Bay Area Reporter

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395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

AIDS Activists Meet Clinton Staff, 'Have Every Reason to be Hopeful'

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON — Leaders of a broad coalition of social groups working on AIDS met here December 9 with a top representative from President-elect Clinton's transition staff. After what participants agreed was a productive talk, they expressed hope that the epidemic will be better addressed in the coming four years than in the past ten.

"The most important thing we heard [today] ... is that we as AIDS advocates have every reason to be hopeful," said Dan Bross, executive director of the AIDS Action Council.

Members of the broad-based National Organizations Responding to AIDS (NORA) Coalition held their hour-long meeting at the Madison Hotel with Tim Westmoreland, the Clinton transition team's point person on AIDS.

After the talk, meeting par-

ticipants reported that the staffer told them Clinton intends to make good on his manifold promises on AIDS, but did not pledge himself to any specific dollar amounts for most federal AIDS programs.

During the meeting, the advocates for AIDS causes enumerated a number of actions Clinton could take upon assuming office that would not cost the federal government any money, and a list of many that would require substantial expenditures. Each list contained a number of matters Clinton promised to back early in the presidential campaign.

Among those were executive orders lifting the federal immigration ban on people infected with HIV; lifting the ban on government-funded medical research using tissue from aborted fetuses; full funding for the Ryan White AIDS CARE Act; the ap-

pointment of a Cabinet-level "AIDS czar"; and stronger leadership on the AIDS epidemic in general.

The advocates also called for a laundry list of other matters, some of which were given only general support during the campaign.

Of the matters not related directly to spending, the advocates called for an end to the content restrictions on AIDS prevention materials at the Centers for Disease Control; better planning at the National Institutes of Health; and an end to the ban on HIV infected individuals in the Peace Corps, Foreign Service, military and federal Job Corps.

They also issued a list of demands on the federal appropriations process, all of which could add up to an additional \$1 billion in increased spending on AIDS in the coming fiscal year.

On the research front, they

(Continued on page 28)



Happy Holidays

Dianne Feinstein and husband Richard Blum are joined by George Mitchell (left) and Robert Byrd (right) on the couple's Christmas card celebrating a successful 1992 and looking forward to 1993.

Holiday Festivities Around Town

by K. Bradley Hudson

The following free holiday events may be of interest to B.A.R. readers:

December 24

Christmas Eve Buffet: Gay Community Services 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. St. Paulus Lutheran Church, 950 Gough at Eddy. Free and open to the public: 431-4466.

Christmas Eve Brunch: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Glide Memorial Church 330 Ellis at Taylor. Free and open to the public: 441-6501.

AIDS Emergency Fund's 5th Annual Christmas Eve Dinner: Seatings at 12 p.m., 2 p.m. and 4: p.m. War Memorial Veteran's Building in the Green Room, 401 Van Ness at McAllister. Open to people with AIDS, ARC, their families and friends. Bring an invitation available from the AIDS Emergency Fund, AIDS Foundation, Shanti, Project Open Hand, or verification of HIV status. Later seatings are less crowded. Call 979-5937 for information or to volunteer; 431-6913 for rides.

December 25

Christmas Breakfast: 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., and Christmas Dinner 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Glide Memorial Church, 330 Ellis at Taylor. Free and open to the public: 441-6501.

Empress Tenderloin Tessie Memorial Holiday Dinner: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. St. Paulus Lutheran Church, 950 Gough at Eddy. Free and open to the public: 703-0345. Volunteers needed, especially for clean-up at 3 p.m.

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U.S. Mayors to Colorado: Thanks but No Thanks

by Rex Wockner
Outlines News Service

The U.S. Conference of Mayors Executive Committee voted unanimously December 17 to move the group's June 1993 meeting out of Colorado because of the state's new ban on civil rights for gays and lesbians.

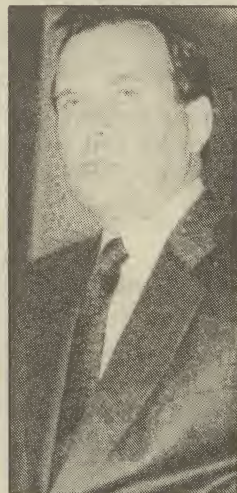
The decision came one day after Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley threatened to boycott the meeting if it were not relocated from Colorado Springs.

"If it remains in Colorado, neither I nor any representative from the city of Chicago will attend the annual meeting," Daley wrote to conference President William Althaus, mayor of York, Pennsylvania.

The mayors said their organization "recognizes the right of all citizens, regardless of sexual orientation, to full participation in American society, and recommends that all levels of government adopt legal protections for the rights of gay and lesbian Americans."

In issuing his boycott threat, Daley said, "It's entirely unacceptable for mayors to convene in a location where lesbians and gay men do not enjoy the basic protections against discrimination that most other cities and states offer."

"The Colorado amendment is a step backwards in our continuing effort to create a more bias-free society, and I condemn it in the strongest



Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley

terms."

Colorado voters amended their constitution in November to repeal laws in Aspen, Boulder and Denver that protected gays from discrimination in housing, jobs, public accommodations and other areas. The amendment also forbids passage of new so-called gay-rights laws. A similar amendment was defeated by Oregon voters. The Christian groups that worked to put the referenda on the two states' ballots are organizing identical efforts in other states.

Chicago gay activists con-

sider Daley a friend, saying he is as non-homophobic as straight people come in the 1990s, but they say it is rare for Daley to take such a proactive stance on a gay issue.

Historically, Daley has been slow to grasp the political ramifications of developments in the gay movement and, as a result, he often has found himself in hot water with gay leaders and, especially, direct-action groups. He frequently has been on the defensive on gay issues, rather than in a position to seize the offense, as he has on Colorado.

The executive committee that unanimously endorsed the move away from the Colorado Springs meeting location is comprised of Mayor William Althaus of York, Pennsylvania; Joan Barr of Evanston, Illinois; Sharpe James of Newark, New Jersey; Greg Sparrow of Dekalb, Illinois; James Perron of Elkhart, Indiana; Victor Ashe of Knoxville, Tennessee; Theodore Mann of Newton, Massachusetts; Elizabeth Rhea of Rock Hill South Carolina; and one Coloradan: Robert Isaac of Colorado Springs, the very town that has lost the conference.

Many other organizations, association, governmental bodies, politicians, and public figures are boycotting Colorado until the anti-gay amendment is repealed or declared unconstitutional. The snowballing boycott has horrified the state's ski industry. ▼

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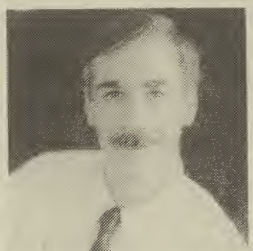
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Community News

SF Supervisors Vote To Boycott Colorado

by Dennis Conkin

San Francisco Supervisors voted unanimously 10-0, on December 21 to prohibit the use of city funds for travel to the state of Colorado.

Supervisor Willie Kennedy was absent for the vote.

The measure by Supervisor Harry Britt also prohibits the city from using funds to purchase goods made in Colorado.

Britt introduced the legislation following the passage last month of Amendment 2, which prohibits state laws protecting the rights of lesbians and gays from discrimination, including housing and

employment.

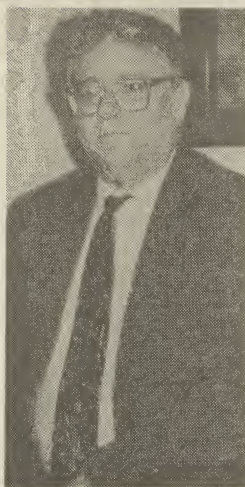
The Colorado measure also repealed gay rights protections in Aspen, Denver and Boulder.

Mayor Frank Jordan is expected to sign the resolution.

San Francisco joins New York City, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Seattle and Austin, Texas, as cities that have passed resolutions forbidding city employee travel to the Colorado.

The Austin resolution also forbids city employees from traveling to Springfield, Oregon, or Concord, California, which passed anti-gay laws.

Concord's anti-gay measure was later overturned. ▼



Former Supervisor Harry Britt

Supervisors Divest from BofA

by Dennis Conkin

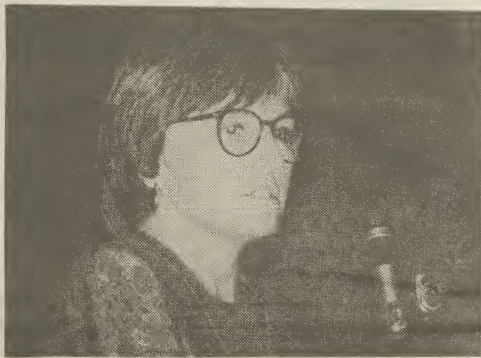
The San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted on December 21 to divest an estimated \$6 million in city funds from from the Bank of America.

By a 7-3 vote, the supervisors passed a resolution by Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg calling for the action in response to the bank's corporate support of the anti-gay Boy Scouts of America.

"This is not an anti-business measure or an effort to punish one entity. It's an effort to send the right message to the youth of this city that this Board will stand up for what is right," Achtenberg said.

In her remarks to the Board, Achtenberg acknowledged that the multi-national financial institution "had done a great number of things to enhance the quality of life in San Francisco and has been in many respects an admirable corporate citizen."

But, she said, the bank's turn-around on its original decision not to fund the Boy Scouts of America, which excludes gay youth from membership, left her no choice except to introduce the resolution.



Roberta Achtenberg

Achtenberg called the resolution "a modest proposal" and said that it "did not represent a significant assault" on the city's business with the bank.

San Francisco has more than \$40 million in a variety of funds at the institution. The funds would be pulled from lock-box and revolving accounts used by city departments to deposit cash collected from parking and traffic fines, court fees, San Francisco

General Hospital and Public Utilities Commission revenues.

Supervisor Willie Kennedy, who had promised in her recent re-election campaign to support the divestiture move and who had been endorsed by Achtenberg and Carole Migden, ducked the vote by leaving the room. Supervisors Annemarie Conroy, Tom Hsieh and Bill Maher voted against the measure. ▼

Tenants Chosen for BofA Bldg.

by Dennis Conkin

The Life Center and Golden Gate Performing Arts Association have been selected as prospective tenants of the now-empty former Bank of America building on the corner of Castro and Market streets.

The Bank closed the branch earlier this fall after it acquired Security Pacific Bank and moved its operations to the former Security Pacific branch office on 18th and Castro.

The two nonprofit groups were chosen by committee appointed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

Negotiations between the Life Center and the bank over the 3,900-square foot property, which includes a basement and upper

floor, began last week.

"It's now up to the negotiators," said Life Center spokesman Paul Dirdak.

According to Dirdak, Life Center has agreed to be at the site for three years, pending its completion of a \$3.5 million building at the corner of Market and Noe, which will house AIDS service groups.

The lease at the former Bank of America site will be for eight or nine years, according to Dirdak.

Golden Gate Performing Arts, the nonprofit entity for the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, will have a ticket booth at the site.

"I'm excited by the opportunity to have a place on Castro Street for lesbian and gay arts. It's a little scary because it's a lot of work," Luke Sheridan, GGPA president,

told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

At the end of three years, GGPA has the right of first refusal to occupy the entire space when the Life Center moves into its new building, according to Sheridan.

Dirdak said that he "certainly understands" the anger and outrage over the recent controversy regarding the bank's position about funding the Boy Scouts, but says that the site is "the gateway" into the Castro and that the bank will rent the space, regardless.

Jean Paul Samada, an aide to Supervisor Terence Hallinan who was a key player in the proposed tenant selection process, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that it was important to keep the site from becoming a fast food or other franchise. ▼

Project Open Hand Launches Holiday Giveaway

by Dennis Conkin

More than 1,600 people with AIDS in San Francisco, Berkeley, and Oakland who receive Project Open Hand home-delivered meals will receive Christmas packages plus their gourmet Christmas dinners with all the trimmings.

The Christmas packages include gifts, such as books from Chronicle Books and other publishers, bath soaps from the Body Shop, socks from Joe Boxer, movie tickets, See's candies, and other individually gift-wrapped items, said Art Silverman, an Open Hand spokesman.

Girl Scouts volunteers spent several recent weekends individually wrapping the presents.

Silverman told the *Bay*

Area Reporter that the gifts and dinners will be made possible due to the special help of 100 volunteers from San Francisco's Jewish Community who will staff the kitchen and assist with deliveries on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. That way, other volunteers can celebrate the Christian holiday with their loved ones.

"It's turned into a tradition for people from the Jewish community to lend a hand to the agency on Christmas Day so that other volunteers can have the day off," Silverman said.

The tradition was begun four years ago by a member of Congregation Sh'har Zahav — and has since expanded to other congregations and groups, such as Jewish Children's and Family Services.



Girl Scout volunteers helped Project Open Hand fill 1,590 shopping bags with wrapped presents last weekend. Each client of Open Hand will receive gifts on Christmas Eve along with their regular meal. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

"The gift packages are just a way to give something a little special beyond the meals that Open Hand provides year-round. Hopefully, it brightens up the holidays a little bit," he said.

In addition to the holiday presents, clients will be treated to a Christmas dinner that includes chicken cordon bleu, fresh asparagus in butter sauce, a salad of mixed baby

greens with roasted red pepper, rice, and fresh-baked cherry pie.

On December 20, more than 30 volunteers from The Healing Circle, Project Open Hand's volunteer chorus, went to the homes of clients who asked for a visit from the teams of carolers.

The agency delivers more than 500,000 hot, nutritious

meals to people with AIDS and disabling HIV disease yearly. In addition, the Open Hand Food Bank prepares more than 100,000 bags of groceries a year for clients.

According to Silverman, Open Hand clients will also receive a New Years Eve party package that includes a bottle of sparkling cider, noise makers, party favors, and gifts. ▼

SF Man Busted in Berkeley Restroom

by Dennis Conkin

A San Francisco man was sentenced last week to three years of court probation after he pleaded guilty to lewd and lascivious conduct charges in a University of California public restroom.

John Dawkins, 42, pleaded guilty to the disorderly conduct charges stemming from an October incident at the Bancroft Library on the Berkeley campus.

Dawkins was arrested on October 22, following a complaint from a student that he had been filmed while using the restroom facility on the second floor of the library.

"This is the first incident that the UC police can recall of this type," Jesus Mena, public information officer for the UC Berkeley campus, told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

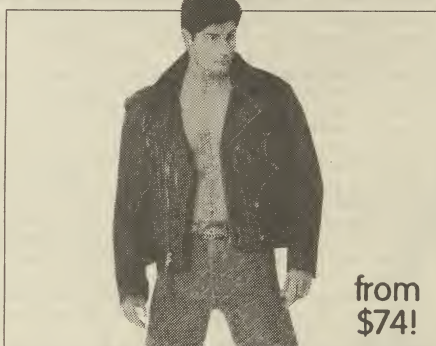
Dawkins, who had more than 100 pages of pornography in his backpack when arrested, spread the material on the floor of a toilet and placed a tilted video camera on the floor of the neighboring stall, according to news reports.

A review of the video tape by UC police also showed eight other men using the toilet, according to the *Daily Californian*.

According to the newspaper, Dawkins told UC Berkeley police authorities that he "had heard this was a great place to pick up guys." ▼

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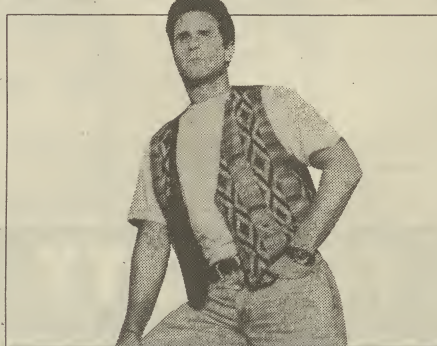
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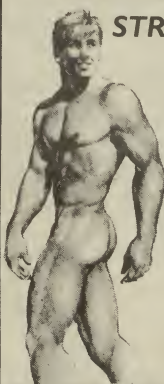
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Community News



The AIDS Mural Project's proposed mural has been blocked from two sites already.

Proposed AIDS Mural Rejected By City Health Clinic Neighbors

by David O'Connor

No one seems to want a mural designed by a group of local artists to increase awareness about AIDS.

Artists Arch Williams, Victor Fan, Antony de Senna, and Susan Greene formed the AIDS Mural Project in 1989 as a personal way to address the ever-increasing problems of the AIDS pandemic.

"We had lost friends and neighbors to the epidemic and we wanted to make a statement," Williams told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We wanted to paint something that would really show our care and concern."

The artists were able to secure a \$10,000 grant from the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development to finance their work, on the condition that the mural would be painted on a public or nonprofit building, and the artists got approval from neighbors. Ideally, the mural would fill a space of 80 feet by 27 feet, Williams said, but it can be adjusted to different dimensions.

The artists first sought permission to paint the mural at District Health Center No. 1 on 7th Street. But opposition from neighborhood residents squelched that plan.

Next, they tried the city's Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic on 7th Street, but the owner of an electronic supply company next door refused to OK the project.

San Francisco General Hospital agreed to let the artists paint the mural in the waiting room of Ward 86 — but not on the outside wall the artists had requested. Williams said that because the indoor spot was inappropriate for the proposed artwork, the artists created another

piece for the waiting room. That mural, entitled *Ocean Front*, was dedicated this month.

"It appears to me that there's a lot of homophobia, AIDSphobia and sexism and racism within these various people," Williams said of the roadblocks he has met in trying to complete the mural. "That, and a very broad-based denial: still, even in San Francisco, denial of AIDS and the seriousness of AIDS."

The AIDS mural includes a multicultural mix of people with a central figure the artists call an African grandmother. While Williams said he believed people balked at the mural's content, at least one of the project's detractors said people opposed a mural in general.

Jimmy Buckley, president of District Health Center No. 1's Citizen Advisory Board, called the mural "inappropriate" for the health center's wall.

Buckley cited maintenance cost and neighbor's disapproval as reasons for denying permission to paint the mural. He said neighbors did not know the content of the mural when 100 of them signed a petition against it.

"The nature of the mural was an afterthought," Buckley said. "We also felt that while AIDS services was a major use of the premises, it was not the sole use of premises. A lot of people use it for AIDS services because it's an anonymous building."

"The testing that's done — there's a large number of people who do not reside in the county who get tested there and a lot of people feel comfortable because it's an anonymous place and no one knows

who they are or what it's about," Buckley said.

At the STD clinic on 7th Street, the artists ran into opposition from Robert Westerberg, president of Maltby Electrical Supply Company.

Williams said Westerberg complained that painters working on the mural would interrupt loading at his company. When the artists proposed using scaffolding that hung from the clinic's roof and wouldn't impede traffic, according to Williams, Westerberg said people stopping to watch the painters would cause too much congestion.

Westerberg did not return phone calls from the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Williams said that the artists' offer to use special scaffolding "was a big concession on our part because that scaffolding is difficult and dangerous. But we were really dedicated to doing the project."

When the indoor location was offered at SF General, Williams and the other artists decided to create a mural better suited for the spot.

"Our [original] design had too many figures in it for that closed-in space," Williams said. "The message wasn't appropriate for people who are already ill."

With the alternative artwork completed at SF General, the artists continue to seek a site for the original mural. By now the city grant has been augmented by \$3,000 in additional funding from the Zellerbach Family Foundation and other donors.

"We feel like the mural is about people caring for each other," Williams said. "It's intended to foster support and make people really ponder about what they're doing with their lives." ▼

Murder Victim Identified

by Dennis Conkin

An elderly gay man found strangled in his Eddy Street apartment in the Tenderloin district on December 10 has been identified as Joseph Calcagno, an 81-year-old former merchant seaman.

Calcagno was known as "Bicycle Joe" to street hustlers and others who frequent the Civic Center and Polk Street districts because of his trademark bicycle.

A longtime friend of Calcagno's told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the murder victim was a "kind and very generous person" who used to "pick up street people."

The friend has asked that his identity not be disclosed.

"He wasn't some dirty old man preying on some innocent youth or something like that. I was amazed to hear he was murdered because he had a very good sense of people. He would pick up street people and give them shelter for months at a time," the friend said.

"Joe was a typical Italian, very happy-go-lucky and in love with life. He was in good health and proud of it. To him, life was simple and to be enjoyed. We are all just stunned," he said.

According to the source, Calcagno was a merchant seaman who worked almost exclusively as a yeoman for the old American President Lines, a luxury passenger lin-

er that went out of business in the late '70s.

Calcagno's friend, a retired seaman, expressed frustration that the murder has not been reported extensively in the mainstream press.

"It's like it didn't happen. Joe used to live in a senior residence near Moscone Center but he moved a few years ago because he didn't feel safe. I am living in a better neighborhood than he did and we all feel like trapped animals. It's like the city is out of control," he said.

The murder remains under active investigation by San Francisco Police Homicide inspectors. ▼

Gay SF Area Vets Urge Clinton To Lift Military Ban

by David O'Connor

While homophobic zealots urge President-elect Clinton to maintain the military ban on lesbians and gays, former armed forces personnel are calling on Clinton to keep his promise to lift the ban.

Graduates of the five U.S. military academies — West Point, Annapolis, the Air Force Academy, the Coast Guard Academy and the Merchant Marine Academy — last month formed a group to promote gay rights in the military.

Academy grads in a unique position

Service Academy Gay and Lesbian Alumni (SAGALA) includes 29 members so far, plus a number of "shadow members," active military personnel who cannot be open members. Organizers hope to have 50 open members by Inauguration Day. The group has begun a letter-writing campaign to Clinton, urging him to lift the ban.

"We don't think the existing military leadership has the skills to lead us into the next millennium," said Phil Adams, Annapolis graduate and former Marine Corps Infantry Officer. "Bush, Quayle and the other bigots lacked this leadership and they were fired. Perhaps we should retire our ineffective service chiefs at two stars and discharge under other than honorable conditions those unwilling to grow up and accept gays and lesbians as equals."

The service academy alumni group intends to provide professional and social networking for graduates and support service members under investigation or discharged for being gay or lesbian.

Adams said he is skeptical about whether many people will come out of the closet if the ban is lifted. He pointed out that it will be too easy for leaders to discriminate against open gays and attribute it to poor performance.

"I don't think the average sailor or soldier or Marine



Veteran Edward Van Egri urged President-elect Clinton to lift the military ban on gays.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

will have a problem dealing with gays," Adams said. "Leaders have put into people's mind how things are going to be."

Adams spent five years in active duty and was stationed at Camp Pendleton. He said the military may be more prepared to accept "butch" gay men, but it's important to make sure all gays are accepted.

Adams said that Service Academy Gay and Lesbian Alumni members are in a unique position to influence policy.

"We believe that our extensive training as America's military leaders and our exemplary service records will serve as a reminder to the military's elite power structure that gays and lesbians are indeed competent, honorable, patriotic Americans," Adams said. "Our purpose is to remind the powers that be that we are here to stay and that we are among their ranks."

For more information about the group, contact Michael Cuesta at 795 Corbett Ave. No. 4, San Francisco 94131.

Leers cause no special anxiety

In 1953, when Edward Van Egri was drafted into the U.S. Army, few people prob-

ably imagined the military would ever lift its ban on lesbians and gays.

Van Egri said he couldn't come out as a gay man while he was in the service. But now he has written President-elect Bill Clinton, urging him to follow through on his promise to dump the anti-gay ban.

Van Egri spent two years in the Army as an engineer at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland. Because he feared discrimination in future employment, he remained closeted throughout his military stint and was honorably discharged in 1955.

"The hardest part during those two years was the duplicity," Van Egri told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "Being with my friends day in and day out and fabricating a story about what I did and where I went."

"These guys that I liked and got close to, worked with and lived with and slept in the same barracks with—they would ask what I did last night and I would have to be able to give them a good story."

"At that time in history and at that time in my life, I couldn't walk out of the closet," he said. "If I were 23 in 1992, I probably would be mentally ready for it."

The only person who knew he was gay, said Van



Phil Adams, Annapolis graduate, former Marine Corps Infantry Officer and a member of Service Academy Gay and Lesbian Alumni.

Egri, was a psychiatrist he talked to right after basic training.

"At the end of the interview, he asked me offhandedly, 'which do you like better, boys or girls?'" Van Egri remembered. "He caught me off guard and I answered, 'boys.' All he said was, 'watch where you stick your prick, soldier, and have a good two years.'"

After he was discharged, Van Egri moved to San Francisco where he has lived ever since. He taught engineering at City College for 14 years and now works in real estate.

In his letter to Clinton, Van Egri wrote, "my homosexuality caused no particular problems for me or anyone else in my group of Army buddies. ... I may admit to an occasional and well-guarded leer in the shower room, which caused no special anxiety to me or anyone else, anymore than would a side

glance at a female military person."

"We expect to exercise great patience with your time frame for ending the wasteful and ridiculous ban on gays in the military," he wrote, "but fully expect you to remain firm in your promise to do so."

Van Egri said he wrote Clinton because right-wing fundamentalists are bombarding the White House with letters supporting the ban. He urged other gays and lesbians to write letters as well.

"The religious crazies have loose-guided morality behind them," Van Egri said. "We have our own rights and lives behind us. What they call morality ain't morality at all."

Letters to Clinton can be sent to The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20050; or to PO Box 615, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72203. ▼

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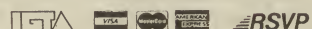
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LYRIC To Expand Services

by David O'Connor

The Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center plans to expand services to youth under the age of 18 through a new after-school program and an information hotline.

LYRIC plans to kick off the new projects in April 1993, partially funded by an \$89,000 grant from the city. The after-school program will provide educational and recreational activities, and the hotline will offer information about LYRIC and other youth services.

"We really have wanted to target under-18-year-olds," LYRIC Director Dan Barutta said. "Older young people have different needs than

younger young people. We really want to get these programs off the ground."

Barutta said the hotline will serve youth in crisis, as well as parents and teachers who need information, and will be staffed by qualified young people.

LYRIC also will hold a Clean and Sober New Year's Eve Ball in conjunction with the AIDS Emergency Fund. The ball will be held at the Women's Building from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Admission is on a sliding scale of \$10-\$25.

LYRIC was founded in 1988 to provide safe recreational opportunities and support activities for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning young people. ▼

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Editorial

Christmas Mourning

When the holidays bear down upon San Francisco like a runaway train, when shop windows are laden with cotton and plexiglass, artfully arranged to simulate the kind of snowfall we never see here, when the airwaves are full of songs of cheer, it's easy to be swept away in the spirit.

It's especially easy now that the Clintons and Gores are set to take the White House within a month, localities across America are lining up to officially shun Colorado for its hateful Amendment 2 — our own among them, we proudly note — and so many people are helping the less fortunate to take part in the celebrations by which this time of year is inevitably remembered and judged. Our heartfelt thanks and blessings to all of the above.

And then, just as we start feeling a rosy glow come to our cheeks and hearts, we hear more bad news, such as the story on page 18 of this issue of the *Bay Area Reporter*: a young man who joined the Navy to serve this country was summarily beaten to death by his shipmates for the "crime" of loving other men. It has taken the joy from our holidays to hear of something so heinous; imagine what it has done to his family.

We have, ourselves, suffered through holidays in mourning, and we cannot forget the pain it brought. For that reason we offer the advice at right, for those who have lost someone special recently. Recent is, of course, a relative term; many of us who lost a loved one several years ago still cannot face certain ornaments, carols, even wrapping paper that evokes painful memories around the holidays.

It is a shame that so many of our sisters and brothers will go through this season robbed of the joy they deserve, all because America has not learned to value all its citizens. So many brilliant and funny people will not be trimming trees and baking cookies this year because they were lost to epidemics our government didn't care to recognize and then didn't care to address. AIDS is one; another is anti-gay violence.

The seaman who was so savagely beaten by his shipmates — so much so that he had no identifiable facial features when he was found — was to have been discharged in time for Christmas; he should be, at this moment, drinking egg nog in his mother's kitchen and struggling to wrap irregularly sized packages. Instead he is forever beyond the hope of Christmases yet to come, and for those who loved him the holiday season is a cruel parody.

And whose fault is all this? We believe the blame lies squarely on the shoulders of those who preach hate. From the pulpits of churches and the stages of political conventions, their message of bigotry, intolerance, and implicit violence permeates the atmosphere like a deadly gas. The Randall Terrys (founder of Operation Rescue, the anti-abortion group, who now has his sights set on repealing gay rights) and Pat Robertsons, the Jerry Falwells and Lou Sheldons — they hide behind Bibles they don't understand and preach unrelenting hatred. That's what killed Petty Officer Richard Allen Schindler, and they must know it.

Jonathan Swift, who is mostly known for having written *Gulliver's Travels*, made the observation "We have just enough religion to make us hate, but not enough to make us love one another" in 1706. You would think in the last 287 years we'd have learned something, but it seems we haven't.

This year, send Christmas cards to Bill Clinton at the White House and tell him you don't want to spend another winter mourning your friends (including those you haven't met.) And if you have the stomach for it, call the religious fundies on their toll-free numbers and tell them they killed Richard Allen Schindler.



Guest Opinion

How Survivors Can Survive the Holidays

by George Walkey,
Kearney Funeral Services, Vancouver, Canada

In our lives, there are many holidays or "special days," such as birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, weddings, and Easter to name a few. These are all difficult days for the bereaved but, for many, the most difficult holiday of the year is Christmas. This day more than any other means "family together." They are synonymous and it is at this time we are so acutely aware of the voids in our lives.

For many, the wish is to go from December 24 to December 26. We continually hear Christmas carols and people wishing everyone "Merry Christmas"; we may see the perfect gift for our dead lover, child, spouse, or relative; and we suddenly realize they will not be here. Listed below are some ideas and suggestions that others have found helpful in coping with the holiday season. Choose the ones that will help you.

1. There is no right or wrong way to handle the day. Some may wish to follow family traditions, while others may choose to change.
2. Be careful of "shoulds" — it is better to do what is most helpful for you. If a situation looks especially difficult over the holidays, don't get involved, if possible.
3. Set limitations. Realize that it isn't going to be easy. Do the things that are very special and/or important to you. Do the best that you can.
4. Baking and cleaning the house can get out of proportion. If these chores are enjoyable, go

ahead, but not to the point that it is tiring.

5. One possibility for the first year may be to visit relatives or friends, or even to go away on a vacation. Planning, packing, etc., keeps your mind somewhat off the holiday and you can share the time in a different and hopefully less painful setting.

6. Some people fear crying in public, especially at church services. It is usually better not to push the tears down any time. You should be gentle with yourself and not expect so much of yourself. Worrying about crying is an additional burden. If you let go and cry, you probably will feel better. It should not ruin the day for other family members, but will provide them with the same freedom.

7. Do something for someone else, such as volunteer work or visiting the lonely and shut-ins. Ask someone who is alone to share the day with your family. Provide help for a needy family.

8. Share your concerns, feelings, apprehensions, etc., as the holiday approaches, with a relative or friend. Tell them that this is a difficult time for you. Accept their help. You will appreciate their love and support at this time.

9. Holidays often magnify feelings of loss of a loved one. It is important and natural to experience the sadness that comes. To block such feelings is unhealthy. Keep the positive memory of the loved one alive.

10. Don't forget: Anticipation of any holiday is so much worse than the actual holiday.

--Reprinted from the Vancouver PWA Newsletter

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Letters

Not Queer

Last year, I traveled eighty miles round trip and spent over \$200 at the parade. I will not be attending this year. I can travel five miles and hear myself being called a queer for free in Concord.

J. Philip Harrison
Martinez, CA

Pride Parade Date

Where does Ggreg Deborah Taylor, O.S. and the parade committee get off proposing to change the date of the 1993 Gay/Lesbian Pride Parade from the last Sunday in June to the third Sunday? We celebrate our pride the last Sunday in June to commemorate Stonewall, June 25, 1969 (the fourth Sunday!)

I strongly recommend and encourage Ggreg to get with the program. Read up on gay history, specifically Stonewall and you will understand why even the mere suggestion of a change is an insult to most of the gay community!

If this ludicrous proposal passes (without a vote of the gay community of San Francisco), I for one will vote for a recall of the entire parade committee!

Mark Angstman
San Francisco

What about Kikes, Niggers, Spics and Chinks?

Marsha Levine, co-chair of the 1993 Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day Parade, announced that "The Year Of The Queer" is the theme of the parade. Fewer than 40 people voted for and passed that theme "knowing it was controversial," "knowing it was a risk." The B.A.R. reported, "Levine told the B.A.R. that objections have been raised because the word 'queer' has been used historically as an epithet and put-down of lesbians and gays. 'But,' she said, 'many people feel that taking words used to condemn and turning them around and making them positive slogans is a form of empowerment.'"

Using that reasoning, should we celebrate "The Year of the Kike," "The Year of the Nigger," "Chink New Year" and "Spic Festival"? And as women attain equality, they can resurrect any or all of the derogatory terms used to denigrate them, to now impose upon themselves.

Words like "kike, queer, nigger" are designed to hurt and harm, and, primarily, to diminish the stature of those so labeled. This elevates the status of the attacker, who is an emotionally crippled person.

I do not define myself or my world family of lesbian and gay sisters and brothers with the values of our dishonest, deranged and self-serving enemies. I refuse to spit on the memory of all my lesbian and gay sisters and brothers whose lives were diminished, spoiled and even ended and whose hearts were endlessly wounded and broken with such words and actions.

Supervisor Migden, who approves of "The Year Of The Queer" said: "It's really in their face. It will receive resistance from middle-aged people but..."

This is astonishing. Migden did not reveal when she ran for office that she would dismiss and disparage the wishes of her middle-aged constituency. The parade committee are willing to "risk" alienating and offending members of our family. How dare they! We are the rejected of the world; we have been cast out enough. How dare they act in any way to separate any of our family from the whole?

I see no valid reason to persist in the use of a word that causes pain and dissension.

We must not so easily hurt each other. We have, each of us, been hurt and blamed aplenty. We have been the most unfortunate of all human victims. All other persecuted peoples have had families or communities to run to for solace. We are denied everything. From this mountain of pain and death and despair, we are building a worldwide family/community. This is, for me, the great joy of our freedom day celebration.

Bernard Rose
San Francisco

Discriminate Against Straights

If, as some people like to brag, queers run the Colorado resorts and own a good number of them, they should force the hand of the bigots they play with and rent to, and inquire during registrations, the sexual preference of the millions of vacationers who visit their lovely state. If asked why, they should clearly state that they are trying to weed out breeders (or any colorful names they like to call them). I wonder how fast a sexual preference bill would pop up. Perhaps they could fire or evict their straight clientele or threaten to if they're found out to be straight. That's a challenge. How fast would their constitution change? Till then, I have absolutely no interest whatsoever in their "mile-high" dung heap. No one is protected by their constitution.

Michael Eckenrode
San Francisco

Time For Christian Pretenders to Come Clean

The following was sent to the B.A.R. as an opinion of the author.

Republican Congressperson Robert Dornan of Southern California has announced that he is scheduling "hearings" on Gay Rights issues this spring, in an effort to counter the public's outrage over the ongoing bigotry against Gays and Lesbian Americans — particularly in the military.

Dornan's staged event isn't so much a "hearing" as a platform for his extremist bigoted friends and associates. For, only the Religious Supremacists and Christian Pretender homophobes and deeply closeted right wing bisexuals will be speaking at this staged event.

Rather than look to the hearings with concern, mainstream Gays and Lesbians are generally amused because, if anything, the proceedings will expose the Republican bigots for the hypocrites they are. Phyllis Schlafly, the Grand High Priestess of Sexual Hypocrisy, will continue to attack Gays and Lesbians and other Americans who seek equality — hiding the fact, of course, that she has a homosexual son. No doubt we will hear from former GOP Congressperson William Dannemeyer — although there's no certainty about that, ever since his intimate friend GOP homophobe Assemblyman Lewis was ousted by a 19 year-old soldier he was reportedly with in a Sacramento gay bar. Then there is the Anaheim homophobic preacher who, colleagues say, has the largest collection of Gay pornography in the nation. For "research" purposes, no doubt! And, of course we must expect effeminate GOPers with names like "Pat" or "Lou" or "Marion" — real macho, masculine names — to take part in Dornan's little love fest.

GOP homophobic preacher Larry Lea, the Christian Pretender who said he would single-handedly drive the Gays and Lesbians out of San Francisco, with his biblical hordes of millions, is currently explaining to authorities in his home state about an arson fire and some insurance problems relating to same. So, it is unlikely he will attend!

And then, the homophobic Catholic priest in Massachusetts who supported Pat Robertson's 700 Club campaign against Gays and Lesbians. I guess he won't be attending either — now that he is charged with sodomizing lots of little girls and boys not yards from a church altar. And that was just hours after a group of his colleagues in the basement of the Vatican denounced the lifestyles of other good Americans, merely because they were Gay or Lesbian.

But then, we might have someone who up from the OCA in Oregon, or is counterpart in Colorado. On second thoughts — maybe not. I seem to remember that one of their supporters, a "lay preacher" (the newspaper report's own words, not mine) was recently charged with sodomizing approximately 47 little girls and boys and infecting them with AIDS. His wife says she is divorcing him, according to newspaper reports. And this was one of the men who talked about the "lack of morality" of Gay and Lesbian Americans who lead law-abiding and productive and Christian lives in our Military.

Frankly, I hope Dornan and the GOP go through with their plan. I also hope that, concurrent with Dornan's "hearings," Rep. Jerry Studds will hold hearings into the child molestations and child abuse done by members of the GOP, the fundamentalist Christian Pretenders and Religious Right. Some good should come of it. Maybe the public will see that there is some hidden reason why these extremists are threatened by homosexuality. I know I would certainly keep an eye on any child of mine that came into contact with them. Anyone secure in their own sexual orientation doesn't feel threatened by someone else's. The only time I was ever molested in my entire life occurred a couple of years ago, when one of these homophobes, drunk as a newt, was telling me how "bad" it would be for me to come out of the closet. His wife was in the next room. I learned from that experience just what the Fundamentalists were all about, and why they felt compelled to attack other people's lifestyles. They call themselves "Christians" but in reality they do not speak for God. They speak for Avarice and they speak only for themselves and out of self-interest and selfishness. True Christians avoid them like the plague, knowing that Jesus never in his life uttered one word of hate. The Fundamentalist fanatics are fond of thumping their versions of the Bible — deriding other diverse religions — and they are quick to twist the so-called words of God to their own ends. They are quick to lie and distort facts. As, for instance, the FBI's own statistics, that more than 90% of child molestations are done by heterosexuals. The same for child abuse. And these Fundamentalists get pious about homosexual sodomy, but look the other way when heterosexuals do it, or commit crimes as per the Tailhook Scandal. I point out to these preachers who walk on water, that they overlook one of the cardinal commands of their own Bible: "Thou shalt not bear false witness (lie) against thy neighbor!"

The good thing about the Dornan hearings, if held, is that they will expose the hypocrisy of the GOP extremists. The bad thing is that, like the Rodney King beating, the enemies of America will point to them as an example of Americans' sexual immaturity, intolerance, bigotry, and the way the GOP has become the merchant of hate and social injustice at a time when other civilized nations treat their citizens with equality, even Gay and Lesbian ones.

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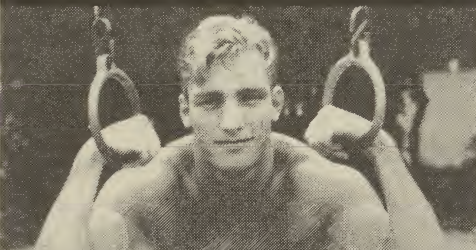
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Other People's Mail

More on Colorado

The following letter was sent to Robert Eaton, Chairman of the Board of Chrysler Corporation:

On Nov. 3, 1992, the state of Colorado passed an anti-gay initiative, Amendment 2. This measure places gay and lesbian residents of Colorado outside the civil rights protections of the United States Constitution, making them open targets for discrimination in matters of both housing and employment.

Amendment 2 was sponsored by a group calling itself Colorado for Family Values. The president of this group, Mr. Will Perkins, is the owner/operator of a Chrysler/Plymouth dealership located in Colorado Springs.

Recent media reports tell us that Mr. Perkins used his Chrysler/Plymouth dealership as a headquarters for the Amendment 2 campaign. This means that monies garnered from the sale(s) of your products were used to hurt gay and lesbian people.

I consider it an outrage that a respected, multinational corporation such as Chrysler would lend its auspices, be it directly or indirectly, to promote the legalized practice of overt discrimination. Because of this outrage, I will not be purchasing Chrysler products now, or in the future.

Additionally, I will be discussing this matter with my family, friends and co-workers.

Steven M. Moore
Pomona, CA

Divestment and Colorado Resolutions

The following letter was sent to San Francisco Mayor Frank Jordan:

Two very important resolutions regarding the welfare of the lesbian and gay communities will soon be placed before you for consideration. We in the Harvey Milk Progressive Democratic Club (advocating lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender civil rights) urge you to support a partial divestment from Bank of America and a city-imposed boycott of Colorado.

A veto of either of these two resolutions will, quite frankly, create an irreparable rift between the lesbian and gay community and yourself. We realize you have worked hard to mend fences with us since the Oct. 6, 1989 sweep of the Castro.

However, a veto of the Boy Scouts/Bank of America resolutions will be interpreted as a blatant endorsement of bigotry by your administration. Perhaps even worse, your failure to support a boycott against Colorado would mean that San Francisco is not even as supportive of lesbian and gay rights as Atlanta or Philadelphia. That would be contrary to the spirit of this wonderful city and a betrayal of its legacy.

It is of considerable concern to the executive board that you may initially view these resolutions as symbolic or otherwise not connected to life in San Francisco. We cannot stress enough our disagreement with such a position. The passage of Amendment 2 in Colorado has emboldened the fundamentalist right. Its leaders have announced plans to carry out similar assaults on lesbian and gay rights in a number of states, California among them. If we do not stop them now with a clear message via Colorado, we will have to stop them later at a much greater cost. Victories such as the one they enjoyed over the Bank of America flip flop also give them encouragement.

We in the Harvey Milk Club implore you not to veto these two pieces of legislation. Do not let a few of the most conservative members of our community mislead you. We have nearly universal support for these measures, the logical result of a community-wide sense of fairness.

The Executive Board of Harvey Milk
San Francisco

More Headaches for Colorado

This letter was sent to the Colorado Ass'n. of Commerce & Industry in Denver:

This is to inform you that I will no longer be spending my business and/or tourist dollars in the State of Colorado. The reason for this decision on my part is the passage of Amendment 2 on Nov. 3, 1992.

I do not feel that I can, in good conscience, accord a monetary stamp of approval to any municipal or state governing body which allows the overt practice of legalized discrimination. Amendment 2 is, in my opinion, legalized discrimination.

Additionally, I will be discussing Amendment 2 at length with both my family and my friends. I hope that such discussion will encourage them to withdraw their financial patronage from Colorado as well.

At such time as Amendment 2 is officially removed from the Colorado state constitution, I will, of course, reconsider my position.

Steven M. Moore
Pomona, CA

Investigate Murder

The following letter was sent to the U.S. Department of Justice.

As Executive Director of the nation's largest gay and lesbian political organization, I am writing on behalf of the gay and lesbian community to demand a full Justice Department investigation into the murder of Petty Officer Allen Schindler. According to press reports, Petty Officer Schindler was beaten to death outside Sasebo Naval Station on the 27th of October because he was gay. The two alleged assailants were shipmates of Petty Officer Schindler. One has been convicted only of failure to report a serious crime and the other has not gone to trial.

I am calling for a DOJ investigation because I do not believe that the Naval Investigative Service will be able to adequately and impartially investigate this heinous crime. It has been the practice of the Department of Defense, the United States Navy and the Naval Investigative Service to deny equal rights to gays and lesbians. It is possible the Navy's "outing" of Petty Officer Schindler contributed to his death and as long as that kind of homophobia is policy, I have doubts about the Naval Investigative Service's ability to conduct an impartial investigation.

It is evident, by the Navy's performance in investigating both the USS IOWA and Tail Hook incidents, that they are more interested in avoiding embarrassment and assigning blame than they are in finding out the truth. Therefore, I strongly urge the Justice Department to look closely into the murder of Petty Officer Schindler so that justice can be truly served.

Timothy J. McFeeley
Executive Director
Human Rights Campaign Fund

Part-Time Bigotry

The following was sent to Donald A. Mullane, Executive V.P., B of A:

I received your correspondence of December 3, 1992, (copy attached) which appears to be a form letter.

What you seem to be saying in this letter is that bigotry is OK as long as you don't practice it all of the time. Looks like Uncle Tom is alive and well at the Bank of America.

Equality under all circumstances is our birthright as gay men and lesbian women, as it is with any human being.

Your support of the Boy Scouts encourages the hatred, intolerance and misunderstanding of gay men no matter how much money you give to AIDS causes.

And by the way, AIDS is a disease, not a minority, and not a gay disease, and support of AIDS causes does not equal support of gay men and lesbian women. You support a bigoted group, which in my book makes the Bank a bigot. Period.

I think it's time you look squarely at your rich pseudo-liberal tax-deductible corporate heart.

I hope that this has clarified my position and the position of gay men and lesbian women everywhere who will no longer move to the back of the bus.

Michael Pearce
San Francisco

Homophobia for Star Trek

The following letter was sent to the executive producers of Paramount Domestic TV in Hollywood:

I am an avid *Star Trek: The Next Generation* fan and have many friends who are also fans of the show.

However, I, and many of my friends are appalled that you have failed to confront one of the most important issues of this decade: homophobia. Yes, I am aware of the one episode that dealt briefly with gender and sexuality issues. But, in my mind, that was a "top out". It was not nearly given the attention this issue deserves.

As gay and lesbian issues come to the fore of American politics, the vehement attacks against gay and lesbian persons escalates. This violence is senseless and based on ignorance.

You have the power to educate people by showing unequivocally that prejudice against gays and lesbians in the 24th century does not exist among humanoids and will not be tolerated by other races. Yet you remain silent. And because of your inaction, more people are wounded mentally and physically every day. Certainly you are not directly responsible for violence against gays and lesbians, but you could be part of the solution.

I believe that the creators of *Star Trek: The Next Generation* have a moral obligation. Often I am impressed by the issues you do confront. But on the issue of gay and lesbian equality, you are failing in your moral obligation. This is now a mainstream issue. And you are virtually ignoring it.

I implore you to create positive gay and lesbian characters in both *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and the upcoming *Deep Space Nine*. Educate the public. Show them that petty, ignorant prejudice against sexual orientation will not exist in the future. By doing this, you will help end the violence.

Helen Church and Richard K. Smith
San Diego, CA

Letters

Last Drag

Nicotine is very addictive, as indicated in a letter from Edisol W. Dotson. In fact, it is the most addictive substance, more so than either cocaine, heroin or alcohol. The relapse rate for nicotine is the same as that of cocaine and heroin. And as Dotson suggests, this is one of the reasons why it is so difficult for a smoker to stop smoking and remain a non-smoker.

Smoking has a devastating impact on the lesbian/gay population. While HIV prematurely and disproportionately takes the lives of many gay men, according to a recent bay area survey, our smoking rate is 61 percent higher than the general population. We also abuse other drugs and alcohol at a significantly higher rate than the general population. And like alcohol, smoking instigates and exacerbates medical conditions. In fact, the use of both tobacco and alcohol creates a synergistic effect in which the chances of developing cancer is exponentially increased.

In the general population, 90 percent of those who smoke begin before the age of 19. Tobacco has been called a gateway drug; people who smoke are more likely to use other drugs and alcohol. One may extrapolate and postulate that lesbian and gay youth who smoke may be at high risk for alcoholism and drugs. Smoking, drug and alcohol abuse lead to behavior which exposes them to HIV. Furthermore, smoking compromises the immune system. Smoking by people who are HIV-positive may trigger the onset of AIDS. Smoking may also put PWAs at higher risk for tuberculosis, pneumocystis and oral lesions.

Fortunately, Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services offers The Last Drag, a free award-winning smoking cessation program for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and people who are HIV-positive. Stop smoking process is a process that takes practice. I have assisted over 500 smokers in our communities since May of 1991. For a schedule of Last Drag classes and stop smoking information, please call me at 565-7676.

Gloria B. Soliz
Lyon-Martin Health Services
San Francisco

Marijuana Laws Absurd

Like many other areas in California, Sonoma County is experiencing economic shortfall. Even so, the county recently spent \$180,000 on the arrest and prosecution of Brownie Mary. On Dec. 15, the District Attorney's office announced that all charges against Brownie Mary had been dropped, even though she had over two pounds in her possession. This development represents a victory of justice over ignorance, but it is also a striking example of the absurdity of our current marijuana laws.

Initially, Brownie Mary was charged with possession with intent for sale of two pounds of marijuana. Later, the charges were changed to simple possession. Now the charges have been dropped altogether. Does this mean that possession of two pounds is now legal in Sonoma County? Or does this ruling apply only to Brownie Mary? Current state law dictates that Brownie Mary had to be arrested. That's \$180,000 spent on absolutely nothing! If the case had gone to trial, the costs would have totaled over \$1 million, but to what end? To put a woman in jail for baking marijuana brownies for dying people?

By dropping the charges against Mary, the D.A. has, in effect, admitted to the unjust nature of our marijuana laws. During the Reagan/Bush years, drug war propaganda has been pushed upon our society in total disregard for scientific fact and basic human decency. Medical marijuana is only the most glaring example of the hypocrisy of drug laws; so obvious that even law enforcement officials are beginning to admit the truth. After 12 years of the drug war, it is now easier and cheaper to buy heroin or cocaine than it is to buy marijuana.

Times are changing. Bill Clinton's election victory represents a rejection of failed and hypocritical Republican policies. We can no longer tolerate one half-million of our children in prison for marijuana offenses. Think of the incredible costs both economic and moral, of these laws which are based on lies to begin with. We must insist that sick people have access to marijuana as medicine. We must refuse to allow our children to become political prisoners. We must refuse to allow our tax money to be wasted. We must end the division of our society and legalize marijuana.

Dennis Peron
San Francisco

Write to 'B.A.R.'

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes your letters to the editor.

Letters must be signed; anonymous letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter—this information will not be published.

In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.

We prefer that letters be typewritten and double-spaced. Handwritten letters will be considered for publication only if clearly legible.

Letters may be edited for length or other appropriate considerations. B.A.R. reserves the right to refuse publication of any letter.

Dissed In the Haight

You can call this letter "Dissed in the Haight".

Paul Bollwinkel's recent piece on our neighborhood, while a favorable piece publicity-wise, missed the boat on a couple of counts.

While dismissing our internationally famous vintage clothing stores as "selling used clothing packaged for the 90's" as "vintage", a dishy aside, this could be due to his own sartorial tastes.

However, in decrying the loss of gay presence as well as the traditional queer avant garde sensibility of the Haight, he is wrong.

While it is true that many of the original gay pioneers who recreated the Haight in the late 70s are gone (mostly due to AIDS), we survivors are here.

Had Paul ventured a mere 2 doors from Trax bar, which he mentioned, he would have found one of the hottest hotbeds of homosexuality in the city, run by the highly visible queer — myself. My New Government store has been holding forth on the street for 13 years, purveying alternative queer culture to all.

Had Paul come by, he would have also seen our window display advertising our recent benefit show by the extremely visibly gay local performance artist, Enrique (who also happens to work here) as well as the local avant-homo acts Carpenteria and the Real Life Partridge Family, all sometime habitués of our little salon, not to mention Elvis Herselvis, who also lives in the Haight. How more visible do you want?

Paul couldn't seem to find one gay merchant in the Haight to interview or photograph (!) though there are many!

Paul — Psst! radical queer culture and fashion are alive and well in the Haight. Next time you want the real dirt — ask a queen!

Buz, Michael
and the Gang At New Government
San Francisco

Botkin Raises His Ire

As a longtime San Franciscan, PWA and former PI volunteer, I must express my outrage and disgust with Michael Botkin's latest column. This ignorant, shameful, vile and poorly written attempt at parody should never have seen the light of day. If Mr. Botkin has issues to raise about Project Inform, let him raise them in a responsible manner, do the research, fact checking and interviewing which even mediocre journalism requires. But obviously, that is to (sic) much work and would require a sense of ethics and integrity, as well as a responsibility to his community, none of which the writer or his paper demonstrate. In defense of his writer, his editor said that Mr. Botkin was interested in promoting a discussion of the issues. What issues? There isn't a single accurate fact in the entire piece. And the only discussion I've heard many times: how bad and irresponsible the B.A.R. is. It is not for nothing that it is almost universally referred to as a gay rag, which is actually an insult to discarded pieces of fabric.

At the very least Mr. Botkin owes the community an apology. If he posess (sic) the journalistic skill, which I sincerely doubt, he should write a responsible piece. Of course, he wont (sic), that would require work.

Bill Bradley
San Francisco

Ed. Note: "Ignorant, shameful, vile and poorly written attempts" are in the eye of the beholder.

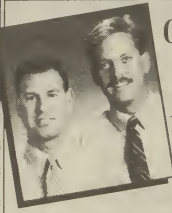
Sic and Tired

Critic — one who expresses a reasoned opinion of any matter involving a judgement of it's (sic) value, truth or righteousness; an appreciation of it's (sic) beauty, technique, or an interpretation. — Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary.

I was apauled (sic) when I read the write up about Christmas with Judy staring (sic) Matthew Martin. I can't imagine why Peifer would ever go to a function where drag is the theme (Christmas with Judy/The Webber Family Christmas) when it seems to make her feel this intolerant, and cruel. I wonder why Peifer wants to write bout these charicters (sic) when she clearly dislikes them?

I am a close friend of Matthew's so I know that his motivation for choosing these charicters (sic) was his way of honoring the performers who (sic) he loves. Matthew is one of the most sincere and kind people I know. The act toward (sic) which she was extra judgemental was Katharine Hepburn. This was not an oppertunity (sic) to make a joke of victoms (sic) of Parkinson's syndrome (sic). If you are going to impersonate anyone, Peifer, you have to become everything they are. If they blink a lot it would be necessary to incorporate this into your portrail (sic). Note to Peifer: where was the part about the standing ovation at the end of the performance (sic) you attended? What buttons did this push to make you so bies (sic)?

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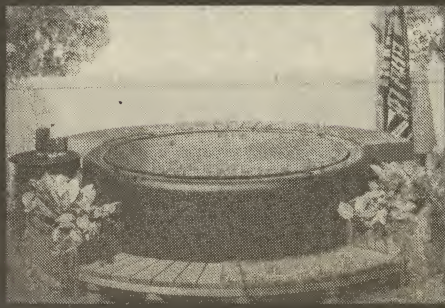
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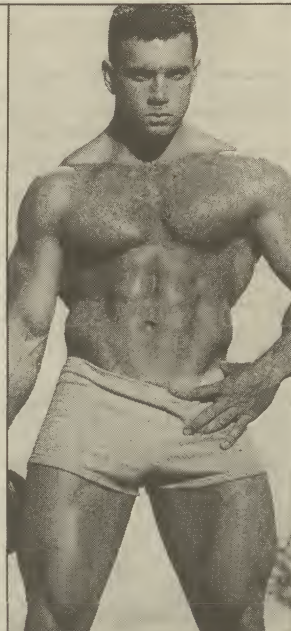
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HUDdling With Roberta

by Wayne Friday

Achtenberg to Washington? This one may be old news by press time, but rumors were swirling this week that Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg, one of the most visible lesbian supporters of Bill Clinton in his campaign, has been offered the post of deputy secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (the number two spot in that department under HUD Secretary-designate Henry Cisneros); this is a very powerful position and Achtenberg would be great for the post.

If this becomes a reality, does this mean that Municipal Court Judge Mary Morgan, Achtenberg's domestic partner, could be headed for a big salary job in a Washington law firm? (Neither Supervisor Achtenberg nor Judge Morgan could be reached by this

writer by press time.)

The Christmas holidays are here again and I would like to take this opportunity to wish the best of Holidays and a healthier New Year to some of my friends and those who give me something to write about every week; people I like and respect - Happy Holidays to Arlo Smith and his wife Helen; Tom Horn; Mayor Frank Jordan and First Lady Wendy; Dennis Collins; Mike Hennessey; Senator Dianne; Randy Alfred; Jim Rivaldo; Harry Britt; Carole Migden and Cris; Art and Sherry Agnos; Ellen Chaitin and V. Roy Lefcourt; Allen White; Dick Pabich; Bob Golovich; David Webb and the staff at the Giraffe...

Oh yes, if Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg does end up in Washington with the Clinton administration, look for Mayor Jordan to choose a

Hispanic replacement (hopefully, a gay or lesbian one).

...Roberta Achtenberg and Mary Morgan; Larry Bush; Chief Tony Ribera; Ken Cady and David Tan; Senator-Elect Barbara Boxer; Angela Alioto; Jim Bonko; Jean Harris; Cleve Jones; Tom Ammiano; Mike Bernick; George Bankovich and the staff at Reflections and the Polk Rendezvous...

Look for Mayor Frank Jordan and State Senator Quentin Kopp to lock horns bigtime over the 1993 BART-to-Airport ballot issue: the two powerful politicians are on opposite sides on this one and the mud is already beginning to fly.

...Jose Sarria; John Van Huesden; Michael Colbruno; Big Bird & Mark; Les and his staff at the Patio Cafe; Char, Ken & the Kokpit gang; Gardner, Hector, and Ed; my barber, Bonnie; Jim Lazarus; Hadley and Susie Roff; the Twin Peaks staff...

Rock star Elton John, a longtime crusader in the fight against the AIDS epidemic, announced last week that he was forming a foundation designed to fund AIDS-related causes in the United States. The nonprofit Elton John AIDS Foundation will be directed by the singer himself and will be based in Atlanta, where he recently bought a home; the foundation will concentrate on AIDS education, patient care, and research for a cure to the disease, John said.

...Morris Kight; Connie O'Connor; Reba, Bella and the gang at Mueller's Deli; June Starling; Randy Shilts; Paul Wotman; Bill Maher; Milton and Caroleene Marks; Jo Daly; Jack Davis; T. J. Anthony; Dr. Marcus Conant; Julie Tang; Ted Hirshfield; Mike Housh Rick; Warren Hinkle; Chuck and the staff at P.S. and Aunt Charley's...

Educator Donna Shalala, President-elect Clinton's choice to replace Louis Sullivan as Secretary of Health and Human Services, has a number of local friends who are very happy with the appointment.

Her, again? - Roseanne (Barr) Arnold acknowledged on *The Tonight Show* last week that, in a letter to the TV critic at *USA Today*, she had used a "very offensive term for gay people," but didn't bother to apologize for doing so (does this woman give a new meaning to the word "vulgar" or what?)

...Ted Fang; Jim Gonzalez; Louise Renne; Tom Nolan; Doris Ward; Sharon Mc-



Elton John

Night; Col. John Maloney; Rod McKuen; Larry Epipette; Jack Molinari; Scott Shafer; Pat Norman; Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon; Linda Post; Paul Ruehl; Ron Ross; Carol Ruth Silver; Rev. Buddy Truluck; Tim Wolfred; Hank Wilson; Anthony Garrett and Carol Klinger...

U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein received a standing ovation from the overflow Sunday morning crowd at Glide Memorial Church when she slipped in quietly (or so she had planned) with her husband Dick Blum; Glide's Rev. Cecil Williams asked the Senator to speak, she did just that, and gave what one Glide regular called "one of our best sermons - next to Cecil's, that is," and promptly received another standing ovation.

...Rev. Cecil Williams and Jan; Herb Caen; Richmond Young; Steve Cox; Leland Yee; Gordon Armstrong; Stanley Boyd; Lia Belli; Cheryl Crane and Josh LeRoy; James Fang; Ace Smith and Laura Talmus; Barbara Kaufman; Lester Olmsted-Rose; Neil and Susan Eisenberg; Dixon and everyone at the Galleon...

Los Angeles record producer David Geffen, another hero in the fight against AIDS, and a big financial backer of the Clinton campaign (he gave \$1,000 to the campaign directly and \$120,000 to the Demo party) was one of those invited by the President-elect to last week's economic summit in Little Rock.

...Jan and Madeleine; Rikki Streicher; John Burton; Lee "LeeOna" Thibodeaux; Michael "Mae" Hughes; Herb Donaldson; Willie Brown; George and June Banda; Nancy Pelosi; Tom Hsieh; Ron Albers; Mary Callahan; Count Marco; Ralph Payne; Carolyn Reilly; Ray Benson; Mick Riddolfi; Sal Rosselli; Totie and

Russ; Charlotte Coleman and the gang at Gilmore's...

San Francisco campaign consultant Clint Reilly (I thought this guy "retired" from the business) has signed on to run Republican millionaire businessman Richard Riordan's campaign for mayor of Los Angeles.

Incidentally, gay and lesbian activists in L. A. are expected to be somewhat split in that upcoming mayoral race between Councilmembers Joel Wachs and Michael Woo.

It's who you know in Washington - normally, new senators get the worst pick of office space, but it is no secret that California's Senators Feinstein and Boxer are getting two of the largest suites in the upscale Hart Senate Building, and Dianne and Barbara aren't complaining.

...Rob Morse; Merv Silverman; Dana Van Gorder; David Binder; Russ Alley; Jerry Brown; Lynn Bumpus; Don Rogers and his staff at Ginger's; Too and Ginger's Trois; Jon Kouba; Mr. Lincoln; Mark Luko; George Masters; George Mendenhall; Gary Myerscough; Scott Smith; Jane Howell; Kathy Stephenson; Ron Huberman; the gang at Lily's...

And in Texas, word has it that popular Governor Ann Richards might very well appoint herself to replace Senator Lloyd Bentsen once he is confirmed as Treasury Secretary; Demo party officials in the Lone Star state are worried that the party cannot keep the seat unless a strong vote-getter like Richards is the incumbent.

Tennis great Arthur Ashe, who retired from the sport in 1979, and announced last year that he carries the AIDS virus, was named last week as *Sports Illustrated's* 1992 Sportsman of the Year; Ashe, who many thought would stay out of the limelight after he bitterly disclosed his HIV infection, has instead become an activist in the campaign to find an AIDS cure and recently set up the Arthur Ashe Foundation for the Defeat of AIDS, with the emphasis on finding the cure "for the hundreds of thousands infected."

...Gilbert Baker; Bob Sandner; Willie Kennedy; Kevin McCarthy; Kay Tsenin; Brian Mavrogeorge; Donna Hitchens; Chris Bowman; Elizabeth Hongisto; Frank Robinson; Louise Molinari; Leo McCarthy; Bob Dockendorf; Dee Dee McCauley; Agar and Diana Jaicks; Frank Jordan Jr.; Dick Hongisto; Ken Kelley; Marty Keller; and the many, many more who I have probably overlooked; a healthy, happy Holiday Season to you all. ▼

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WAS THAT WHO
I THOUGHT IT WAS?



The Spirit of Christmas Presents

by Rachel Pepper

Ho ho ho, Merry Christmas. Hey, wait a minute, I'm Jewish! Fairly easy to forget this time of year, swept up as we all are in the current tide of consumerism that keeps merchants, credit card companies, and therapists well fed for the next few months.

By the time you read this, it may be too late for holiday shopping, but for all you last minute types, here are my own suggestions as to what to get that special girl in your life and on your list. Of course there's always the Gap and the Body Shop, but as music and literature rule my world, consider the following possibilities instead.

If your gal is musically inclined, check out the new Sweet Honey in the Rock release, *In This Land*, an incredible 14-song collection that includes seven songs over five minutes long. Spiritually uplifting, musically magnificent, and politically on the mark, these proud African-American women give you a lifetime of hope even as they sing the story of the disenfranchised. Also consider 7 Year Bitch's *Sick 'Em* for your favorite punker, and Lea DeLaria's *Bulldyke in a China Shop* for your comedy minded pal. For your weird roommate who likes jazzy tunes and is also a k.d. lang fan, consider Mrs. Fun, a Milwaukee-based duo who feature miss kathy dawn on the funky cut, "Lulu's Lament," on their new release, *They Are Not A Trio*.

Literature-wise, you can't go wrong with Dorothy Allison's *Bastard Out of Carolina*, or Blanche McCrary Boyd's *Revolution of Little Girls*. For your psych-major friends there is no other choice than Sarah Schulman's *Empathy*, which I slurped down in one three-hour session. Of course, I would crawl to the end of the earth for Sarah, so be forewarned that this novel,

with its New York lesbian flavor colored by a Freudian undercoat, is quite different from Schulman's earlier works. From our lesbian presses consider the highly enjoyable sci-fi story *Return to Isis*, Louise Rafkin's collection of fiction and essays *Queer and Pleasant Danger*, and the new Stonewall Riots Collection of Andrea Natalie's cartoons, *The Night Audrey's Vibrator Spoke*. If you're still having trouble deciding, subscription forms to *Deneuve*, *OUT*, and the *Advocate* take just minutes to complete, and the recipient will be forced to think of you each time a new copy arrives in the mail.

Everybody always wants me to plug their events, and sometimes I comply. I have to admit, though, that I don't even know the folks who are

Commentary

producing *Itch*, a new club for "queers of all persuasions." However, I do know that Stephanie Phillips is one of the new club's DJ's, guaranteeing at least that the music'll be good. And who couldn't love a club thrown by people calling themselves "Over It All Productions." My sentiments exactly.

An event that didn't need plugging by anybody but themselves was the *On Our Backs* holiday party. Held at the End Up last Thursday night, the chance to hob nob with the OOB gals brought out the spiffed up, decked out girl in all of us. Marilyn Pittman performed at the private VIP gathering as my pal and I sipped champagne and waited to be discovered as the next cover girls. Then the masses were let in, and the strip show began. Rather than ogle the naked girls strutting around on stage, I sat on a bar stool watching my friends command the pool table. Seen one, ya seen 'em



Comic Marilyn Pittman performs at the On Our Backs Christmas party.
(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

all, right?

The highlight of the evening, of course, was when Pussy Tourette performed. That hero of she-dom sang "Free Pussy" and "Bracelets" while wide-eyed girls pressed to the stage, eyes sparkling with adoration at this wondrous sight. When Pussy announced that she'd only prepared two songs, the roar from the audience brought her out for more anyway. Singing "Fuck My Pussy" a capella to the delight of the already delirious crowd, we sang the chorus along with the trio at the top of our pumped up lungs.

The annual Celebration of Craftswomen at Fort Mason drew a large crowd this year to both support the Women's Building fund and shop for holiday gifts. Although shopping makes me nauseated, I did allow myself to purchase some beautiful hand-dipped candles and wander up and down the aisles noting just how many women seemed to be selling the kind of elaborately crafted earrings us Gauntlet types never wear. Still, the fair was a good chance to help a great cause, schmooze with friends, watch some performance art, and say hi to many of the fine local craftswomen in attendance, like Judy Stone and Eileen Goldenberg.

celebration at the American Booksellers Association. Only titles published in the United States in 1992 are eligible for this year's awards, and ballots must be received by February 10.

The ballot this year has 15 categories in which to nominate your faves, including Gay Men's Fiction, Lesbian and Gay Humor, Lesbian Poetry, and Gay Men's Sci Fi/Fantasy, as well as awards for best kid's books and a special "Small Press" book award for work done by a small publisher. Having been a judge for the Lammys since their inception several years ago and an avid reader of queer lit, I believe strongly in rewarding our writers for excellence as well as calling attention to the avalanche of fine gay literature being released. Ballots should be available at gay bookstores wherever you live, or you can call the Lammys Line at 202-462-7924 for more information.

Oh yeah, and happy holidays. ▼

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Another Religious Fundamentalist 'Invites Women to Chastity'

by Ralph Joseph

ATHENS (UPI) — Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said December 16 that women in the West were being exploited economically and sexually, and invited them "to chastity, to Hejab," or the Islamic veil, Tehran radio said.

Khamenei was speaking to a hall full of Iranian women wearing the chador — a head-to-toe covering — assembled on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Fatima Zahra, a Muslim woman saint.

A Tehran radio broadcast monitored in Athens said the Iranian cleric lashed out at what he described as the exploitation of women in the West.

"Not only in the workplace and factories, but also in art and literature, women have been wronged," he said. This was "reflected in art works,

novels, films and paintings," the Iranian leader said.

He blasted Western societies for "treating women as consumers, playthings for men and cheap labor." In Western societies, "women are considered objects of pleasure for men ... [and] they call this women's freedom," he said.

"I invite women to modesty, to chastity, to Hejab," Khamenei said. Iranian women who strictly followed the rules of Hejab were a model for others, he said.

Islam agreed with the concept of working women, provided their work "does not clash with their basic and most important profession, which is bringing up children" and keeping the family together, the ayatollah said.

Women should not fall prey to those who enticed them into wearing make-up and making themselves look

attractive. He invited women to "keep their dignity" by "not making themselves attractive to strange men, so that their eyes can take pleasure."

Iran has forced women to wear the veil since the 1979 revolution that brought the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini to power. Islamic revolutionary guards have since beaten women for breaking the rules regarding veiling, and have carted hundreds to prison.

Tuesday, Khamenei ordered that 76 women held in Iranian prisons should be pardoned or have their prison terms reduced, the official Islamic Republic News Agency said.

The women were earlier convicted by Islamic revolutionary courts, the agency said. It did not specify the types of offenses for which they were jailed. ▼

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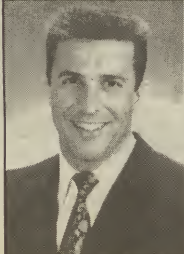
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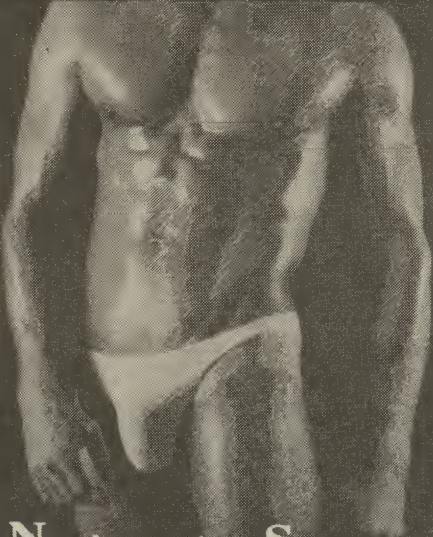
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Conked Out

Jeers of the Queer

by Dennis Conkin

I don't know what it is about the holiday season, but it always seems to sneak up and catch me off guard.

It hasn't been any different this year — the festivities are upon us and I'm hardly ready. Maybe it's that I turned 40 two weeks ago.

I wasn't really prepared for that, either, but it was a surprisingly easy passage into official middle age — and I feel pretty good about it.

I'm actually feeling alright about the holiday season, too. And, to tell the truth, my attitude surprises me.

I've got a reputation as a kind of sentimental crank, so it's always a toss of the dice, I guess, as to my mood this time of year.

I used to be generally either naughty or nice in spades, but I guess I'm mellowing in my dotage and I'm a curious combination of both moods, sort of betwixt and between, these recent days.

I especially noticed this last week at the Bay Area Reporter Christmas party, where the staff and writers of the paper were feted by our publisher to a wonderful evening at Ivy's on Hayes Street.

I'd just come off deadline earlier in the morning and had written a breaking story about the controversial theme of next year's Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade. You know, "Year of The Queer."

As I thought about the theme, noticing all the diverse

tribes of our community represented at the party — from leather dykes to sweater queens — it slowly dawned on me how uncomfortable I felt with "Year of the Queer."

Sure it's trendy — but so are Freedom Rings.

And, I feel exploited.

I really don't think it's a generational thing, either; an old Stonewall generation fuddy-dudd blathering on about the younger generation, etc.

Commentary

Time will tell, but I just don't trust the motives — and that makes me neither an assimilationist or a reactionary.

I've just always been suspicious of privileged day-trippers and in-crowd weekend hippies (fashion queers, if you will) and media stars who stir the flash-in-the-pan shit, the women and men good for a catchy 20-second sound bite who couldn't organize themselves out of a paper bag, and whose rhetoric is empty and trite and fey and insincere sloganeering.

I've paid a lot of serious dues since I came out at 15, way back there in the dinosaur sludge pool from which I emerged, and I resent that my struggle and the struggle of my peers is being trivialized into a quintessentially pretentious, elitist and consumerist, middle class wanna-be activist fantasy.

It's no secret that I come from the street — and I don't mean that I hang out at Cafe Mocando or Haircut over dou-

ble lattes, either.

Over the years in my (infrequent) commentaries in the Bay Area Reporter, I've written openly and honestly about my wounded life and my struggles with homelessness and addiction and poverty, the homophobic legacy of life in a culture that is not love-friendly, if you will.

I'm hardly a special case. Talk to Matthew David or anyone at 18th Street Services or Operation Concern or any other gay mental health or social service agency, including Shanti or Black Coalition on AIDS or Prevention Point or the San Francisco AIDS Foundation about that legacy.

I feel set up.

I am a human being trying to make my way in the world, trying to heal myself, trying to live and love as openly and as genuinely and freely as I can.

Some days that's easier than others.

I don't like it that a group of 50 people want to party on my pain or sensationalize my community's struggle for justice and liberation.

Year Of The Queer feels less like cutting edge than cheap shot.

It'll sell, but that's entirely my point.

Like I said, I'm naughty and nice.

More about that later; I've got presents to wrap and cards to send.

Happy holidays. ▼

Major Victory For Major Pruitt

by Karen Ocamb

On December 7, Long Beach MCC pastor Dusty Pruitt won a major victory in her ten-year-old case against the military, when the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal from the U.S. Army in the case of Pruitt vs. Cheney. The decision clears the way for Pruitt to force the military to factually justify its policy banning homosexuals from service.

In 1983, after ten years of service in the Army Reserves, Pruitt admitted that she is a lesbian. She was stripped of her promotion to major and initiated the lawsuit. It took three more years before she was actually dismissed.

Pruitt's case — now conducted by Mary Newcombe of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund — challenges the constitutionality of the military's right to dismiss lesbians and gays based on status (versus conduct) alone.

"If I say I'm gay — never mind that I've never done anything lesbian at all — their policy is that they have no recourse" but dismissal, says Pruitt, 46. "That's discrimination on the face of it."

The Supreme Court's decision forces the Army to explain how their "rational basis" for kicking homosexuals out of the service is not arbitrary discrimination. Heretofore the courts have dismissed gay civil rights cases against the military saying that "the military is different," and, given its traditional suspension of some civil liberties, the courts refused to interfere with the military's internal judgments of morality.

"This ends ten years of legal wrangling by the military in trying not to put on the case," says Pruitt. "The military has never had to put on the case with facts." The decision in Pruitt's case also paves the way for other lesbians and gays to pursue their lawsuits against the military more effectively.

However, Pruitt hopes that her case will become moot when President Clinton signs an executive order lifting the ban on homosexuals in the military.

"It's our hope that President Clinton will not wait for the courts to tell him this policy is unconstitutional," Pruitt says, "but that he, as a man of goodwill, will see that this is



Major Dusty Pruitt

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

not only just, but ethical and moral and he should go ahead and sign the executive order. And I hope to be there to see it." ▼

A Queer Glossary

by Michael C. Botkin

Readers of this column, and of queer news in general, have complained about some of the obscure words and terms herein employed. Language, alas, is constantly re-making itself and thus often stretches the boundaries of common usage beyond what the general public can understand. As one of the leading

Commentary

queer lexicographers (a not-very-crowded field, I'll grant you) I'm happy to provide a brief guide to some new words as well as to some old words used in new ways.

This glossary can be considered a queer update to the "HIV glossary" published in this space about a year ago. The phrases covered today include: "lipstick lesbian," "monosexual," "queer," "sweater fag," and "transsexual/transgender/transvestite."

Lipstick lesbian

This term refers to a lesbian who consciously rejects the archaic stereotype of the rather butch bull-dyke, and even the more contemporary androgynous norms of Sapphic fashion. A "lipstick lesbian" — often simply abbreviated "a lipstick" — may also be a "femme," that is a homosexual woman who affects a "traditional feminine" style, but there are subtle differences. By the same token, the term has mild overtones of upwardly mobile aspirations, but should not be confused with "dowry dykes" (ruling-class lesbians who inherit substantial fortunes from their typically reactionary and homophobic parents).

"Lipsticks" can be seen as a backlash against the austere lesbian norms of the '70s, when Birkenstocks became standard footwear and self-adornment of any sort was stigmatized as "politically incorrect." The ideal lesbian, in that period, avoided sex-specific cues in her clothing at all costs. She also avoided men, meat, money, refined sugars, and sex (with varying degrees of success — one woman I know insists that if you dug deep enough in the wastebasket of even the most hardcore "seps" [i.e. separatists] you could always find some Twinky wrappers).

By the end of the '80s these restrictions — already largely symbolic and rarely enforced — were falling out of style. Some women decided they liked self-adornment and that they had no desire to be guilt-tripped into following someone else's schema, however worthy. While lipsticks can "pass" more easily as straight than "traditional" lesbians, this rarely seems to be one of their major motivations. Overall, the term "lipstick" is mostly a positive one (in contrast to "Sweater Fag," below) although it is occasionally used perjoratively. It implies a lesbian who follows her own inclinations and desires regardless of what her "sisters" would prefer and/or require of her.

Monosexual

This term refers to a person who is only attracted, sexually, to a single gender.

Thus, a man who is attracted exclusively to men and one who is attracted only to women are both "monosexual" in their interests. This is in contrast to bisexuals, who can function with both genders. Thus the word is at least slightly perjorative, suggesting as it does that "monosexuals" are limited compared to their bisexual counterparts.

The phrase betrays a certain biased perspective, I suppose; but don't all such terms do this? The only difference is in who's perspective is favored. Technically, by the way, according to the still unsurpassed Kinsey survey of sexual behavior, "monosexuals" are a slight minority in the human population as "pure" heterosexuals ("Kinsey zeros") and "pure" homosexuals ("Kinsey sixes") are outnumbered by those who, at least at some time in their lives, swing both ways.

Queer

The term "queer" should be distinguished from both "homosexual" and "gay." "Homosexuals" are people who are sexually attracted to the same gender. It has technical and clinical overtones, and doesn't imply anything about the social identity of the individual. In fact, the vast majority of "homosexuals" are not consciously aware of their orientation and would vigorously deny any attempt to label them as "gay" (let alone queer!). It sounds pathetic, and it is, but that's how it is.

"Gays" — the term is usually meant to include lesbians, and can be understood to be an abbreviation of "gay men and lesbian women" — are openly homosexual, in that they at least know who and what they are. But they may conceal this from their family, friends, co-workers, etc. for moral and/or pragmatic reasons. Even when they are fairly "out" they often identify with the mainstream and eschew what they call "ghettoization" or being seen as too much a part of the gay subculture. "I don't want to be pigeon-holed as gay," they'll say, although they have no similar objection to being pegged as black, or a woman, or Jewish (as the case may be).

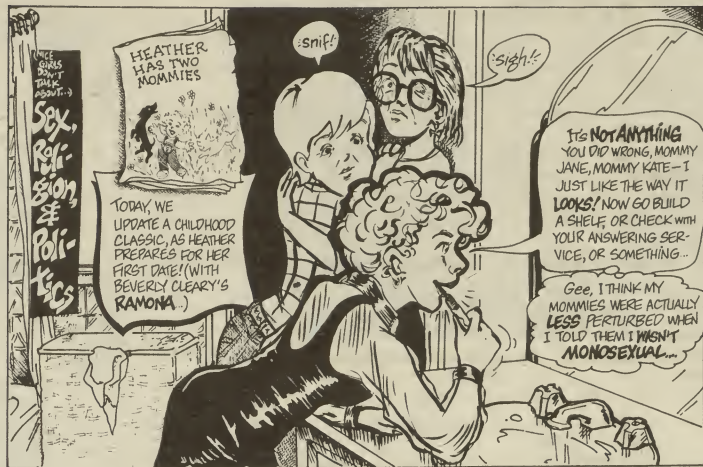
"Queers" are unrepentant, unapologetic gays who make no effort to conceal their sexual orientation and no concessions to mainstream delicacy on the issue.

The relationship, in 1992, between the words "homosexual," "gay," and "queer" roughly parallels that between the terms "colored," "negro," and "black" in 1969.

Sweater fag

A "preppy" or a "guppy" (i.e. Gay Urban Professional) — or someone who wants to be taken for one. A mostly derogatory term, it implies an upscale, consumerist, apolitical fashion-conscious bar-fly who considers wearing a red ribbon on his cashmere cardigan to be almost too "activist" to contemplate (especially if it clashes with his overall color scheme).

This is very much a coastal term, common in the Gay Urban Meccas (a.k.a. GUMs) of California and New York



City, but rarely heard in "the heartland" regions (i.e. the Midwest and South). There virtually all gays present a "preppy" image. Last time I went to a gay bar in Chicago dressed in my standard outfit (blue jeans, sneakers, and an oxford button-down shirt with the sleeves rolled up — I'm no fashion plate, I'll grant you) I was visibly snubbed as shabby by the rather well-turned out crowd. In the land of the sweater fags, the term "sweater fag" has no currency.

Transgender

This term includes both the far more numerous "transvestites" (literally "cross-dressers") and the much rarer

"transsexuals" (literally "across sex").

Most transgenders — the transvestites — merely want to dress in the clothing of the opposite sex. The majority of them, by the way, are heterosexual and have no desire whatsoever to change genders. In its technical applications the term "transvestite" refers to people who are fetishists and get a sexual charge out of cross dressing. But the far more typical usage includes anyone who likes to wear "the wrong gender's" clothing.

In contrast, a transsexual wants to change sexes, to convert from the gender of their birth to the opposite one. They can be roughly divided

into "pre-ops" and "post-ops." The former may have begun modifying their bodies via hormones, etc. but haven't yet had surgery. The post-ops have gone the whole route and often can't be distinguished from "women born women" — much to the distress of the lesbian separatists who strive to exclude transgenderists from womyn's music festivals.

One always calculates the sexual orientation (i.e. gay, straight) of transsexuals from their current gender. Thus, a male-to-female transsexual attracted to women is a lesbian, rather than a heterosexual-in-drag, as many members of the studio audiences on "Donahue" seem to think. ▼

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AZT (Retrovir) — free drug for the indigent at 800-722-9294

Clarithromycin (Biaxin) — free drug for the indigent with MAC (MAI) 800-688-9118

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Courtesy The Guide, Dec. 92, pg. 134



Rocky Mountain News

Compiled by Hollie Conley

If you thought homophobia was to blame for Colorado's passage of Amendment 2, you're wrong, according to a weird editorial written by Vincent Carroll of the *Rocky Mountain News*, and given nationwide distribution in the December 15 *Wall Street Journal*. In a column carefully worded to avoid supporting or opposing the amendment, Carroll defended Colorado voters, and chided those who would boycott the state as "the nation's moral philosophers," who, "now that the Reagan-Bush era has expired," must "find a target for disdain."

Amendment 2 wasn't enacted because of prejudice, but because of "the simmering resentment concerning preferential treatment of previously protected groups." If you want to blame someone for Amendment 2, said Carroll, blame "the nation's civil rights establishment, which for the past quarter century has perverted laws guaranteeing equal opportunity into policies that ... confer benefits on the basis of membership in a protected group." Of course he offered no example of these "preferential treatments," nor did he bother to make the fundamental point that voters who believed that they were denying "special rights" were incorrect.

Racists, homophobes, anti-Semites, and other purveyors of bigotry have always cast their prejudices as defenses of their own interests by talking about "states' rights," "no special rights," or "white power," etc. Just because people may believe their rhetoric doesn't mean we excuse their ignorance when they bash us. You may respond to Mr. Carroll at *Rocky Mountain News*, 400 West Colfax Avenue, Denver CO 80204.

And wouldn't it make your day to see a pro-boycott op-ed piece in the *Wall Street Journal*? Write to Paul E. Steiger, Managing Editor, The *Wall Street Journal*, 200 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10281, tel. 212-416-2000, fax 212-416-2658.

In Living Color

On December 13 FOX Broadcasting's *In Living Color* took its ongoing ridicule of gay men a step further by making fun of gays in the armed services. The program regularly features mocking stereotypes of effeminate, sex-obsessed, woman-hating gay men on its "Men On..." series and in other skits. It has never included an openly gay (or lesbian) performer, or any gay or lesbian characters who were not the object of ridicule because of their sexual orientation.

While the military ban issue is certainly ripe for comedy (how about satirizing all those macho generals going on television to express mortal fear of being looked at in the showers, for example?), *In Living Color* chose once again to

ridicule gays instead of homophobes. Last week's skit depicted a group of soldiers in military barracks readying themselves for inspection. The soldiers were engaged in exaggeratedly effeminate behavior, one wearing his shirt tied in a knot above his waist, and another taking obvious pleasure in being verbally berated. The inspecting sergeant was informed that President Clinton had just lifted the ban on gays and lesbians in the military and this was the first gay military unit, the "Pink Brigade."

Please write to Don Bay, Vice President of Broadcast Standards, Fox Broadcasting Company, Trailer No. 752, Room 112, Los Angeles CA 90035. Copy your letter to Peter Chernin, President, Fox Broadcasting, P.O. Box 900 Beverly Hills, CA 90213, tel. (213) 277-2211.

Woman's Day

The November issue of *Woman's Day*, a monthly "family" magazine and one of the nation's most highly circulated periodicals, included an article by Barbara Bartocci titled "Mom, I'm Gay." The sensitive feature recounted the stories of parents of lesbian and gay children.

The author pointed out that while some parents respond with fear or anger to a child's coming out, "Many parents have also found special gifts in the disclosure."

The article included a boxed inset on "Accepting the Truth," with suggestions for parents on how to "change themselves" rather than trying to change their children. One suggestion: "Get to know some gay people — your child's friends — so they become human beings instead of 'those people out there.'" In another inset a young gay man told of being physically abused by his own mother when he came out of the closet.

The article concluded with the observation that those parents who learn to celebrate their gay and lesbian children are those "who ultimately receive the gifts, who in the end, reap the rewards of their own understanding."

Send your comments to Jane Chenutt, Editor-In-Chief, *Woman's Day*, 1633 Broadway, New York NY 10019.

Colin Powell

According to a recent press report, General Colin L. Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has received hundreds of letters concerning the ban on lesbian, gay, and bisexual people in the U.S. armed forces. The letters are 4:1 in favor of the ban.

General Powell has spoken out in favor of the ban, but in some reports he has been characterized as softening his stand. You may tell him how you feel by writing to General Colin L. Powell, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, The Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-5000, tel. 703-697-9121, fax 703-697-8758.

The only way to cure homophobia is to confront it! Notify the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, of all defamations, and if possible supply us with documentation. Our office number is 415-861-4588; South Bay Hotline 408-235-0229; East Bay Hotline 510-273-9146; fax 415-861-4893. Our mailing address is GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro St., Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94114. ▼

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Contact Nan at ext. 177.

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A closed, group for men and women who are friends, family, or partners of people with HIV. Contact Mark at ext. 149.

HIV Positive Group

A closed, ten week support group for HIV+ gay/bisexual men. Contact Rob at ext. 143

ARC/AIDS Group

A closed, eight week support group for gay/bisexual men with ARC/AIDS.

Contact Rob at ext. 143.

Dating & Relationships Group

A closed, eight week group for gay/bisexual men exploring dating and intimacy. Contact Rob at ext. 143.

HIV Negative Group

A closed, eight week group for HIV- gay/bisexual men. Contact Rob at ext. 143.

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CUAV, Street Patrol, Jeep Patrol All Cruise for Queers

by Jason P. Lorber

Don Fass wants your money and Peg Yates wants your body, to help them cruise the Castro. It's all part of an effort to help save lives and stop homophobic bashings.

Fass needs the money to buy a jeep, as part of a program he'd like to bring to the Castro by mid-March. Called Jeep Patrol, it's modeled after a successful program he began in Los Angeles called Street Cats Street Patrol.

Yates, head of SF-based Street Patrol, needs volunteers to continue that group's foot-patrol of the Castro.

Close to 500 homophobic bashings were reported in San Francisco last year. More than one of every four took place in the Castro. That's about the same number of reported incidents in the Mission, Tenderloin, and South of Market districts combined, according to statistics compiled by the Community United Against Violence (CUAV).

CUAV tallied 473 incidents of reported anti-lesbian/gay violence in 1991, an 11 percent increase from the year before. Those numbers came from bashings that range from 117 reports of verbal harassment to three gay-related killings. The bulk of the other bashings were 223 physical assaults and 76 threats, followed

by 31 cases of vandalism, 16 police-related incidents, four sexual assaults, and three bomb threats.

In only a year and a half, Street Cats volunteers patrolling West Hollywood on foot and in a jeep have arrested 19 people, given first aid to 20, stopped about 30 from driving home drunk, and intervened in 28 fights, said Fass.

Last year, Street Cats spent \$26,000 on a 1971 Dodge "jeep"-type vehicle with a CB radio, walkie talkies, brochures and advertisements. Fass said he donated \$16,000 from his pocket, businesses gave \$1,300, and the rest came mostly from individual donations of less than \$20 each. Brochures for Street Cats boast endorsements from Elizabeth Taylor and Mario Cuomo.

To find local support, Fass visited the Folsom Street Fair a few months ago, set up a base, and raised some money. Although CUAV hasn't heard of him, Fass would like to coordinate his efforts with San Francisco like-minded groups.

Street Patrol's Yates also doesn't know much about Fass's group, but welcomes any help she can get.

"No doubt about it, we're stretched," said Yates. "Even doing what they can, the police will never have enough

cops to stop hate crimes. It's up to us."

On Friday and Saturday nights, a group of Street Patrol volunteers don bright pink caps to patrol the Castro and, less frequently, Polk Street or the Mission District. Street Patrol's base of 30 volunteers, about half of whom are women, range in age from 16 to 72.

"[Volunteers] don't have to be the next ninja-fighter," said Yates. "Some people are very good talkers and can de-escalate the situation to a point of safety."

To date, no Street Patrol volunteers have been injured on patrol.

Street Patrol runs on a paltry annual budget of \$2,000, with volunteers buying their own caps and T-shirts. Their single mission is to stop violence, said Yates, whose official title is Queen.

Jeep Patrol has broader goals of making the Castro safer in general, according to Fass. "We do what cops would do if they were on the scene. We report accidents, give people directions, and spot drunk drivers. And while we're not a vigilante group, we do intervene," he said.

Both Street Patrol and Street Cats share similar interventionist philosophies. Both arm volunteers with handcuffs, and both see visi-



Don Fass is organizing a Jeep Patrol to combat gay bashing in the Castro. (Photo: Judi Parks)

bility as a key weapon to discouraging hate crimes from occurring. CPR, first aid, and basic defense training are required before volunteers can patrol with either group.

While Street Patrol volunteers don't carry any weapons, Street Cat volunteers tote mace and stun guns, which produce 80,000-volt shocks, immobilizing perpetrators for up to 15 minutes, but causing no long-lasting harm, said Fass.

Jeep Patrol will have an 800 number that victims can call if there's trouble. "Of course," added Fass, "they should call 911 first."

While that advice may be the best option available, it's certainly not a guaranteed safety measure. Mayor Frank Jordan was recently quoted in the *San Francisco Examiner* saying, "there appears to be a great time lapse" in how long

it takes 911 operators to answer the phones.

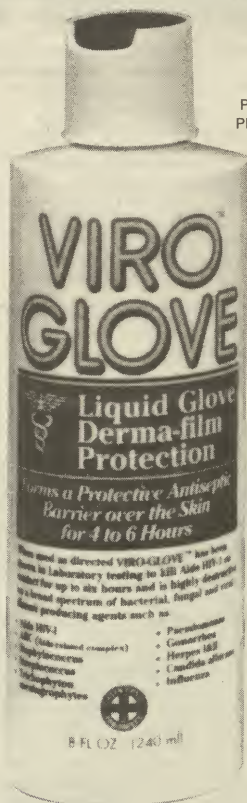
Yates claims to have called 911 within the past month, only to be stuck on hold for 20 minutes. "If I were bleeding, I could be dead by that time."

And while Yates complains about the slow 911 response, she doesn't blame the city, the mayor, or any other group for the hate crimes.

As a bashing victim herself, Yates feels it vital for people and communities to take responsibility for themselves.

"I know it can be scary to be an interventionist," said Yates, "but it's also scary to be a victim. We need volunteers."

Street Patrol can be reached at 415-985-7423. Street Cats Street Patrol and the Jeep Patrol can be reached at 415-955-2303. ▼



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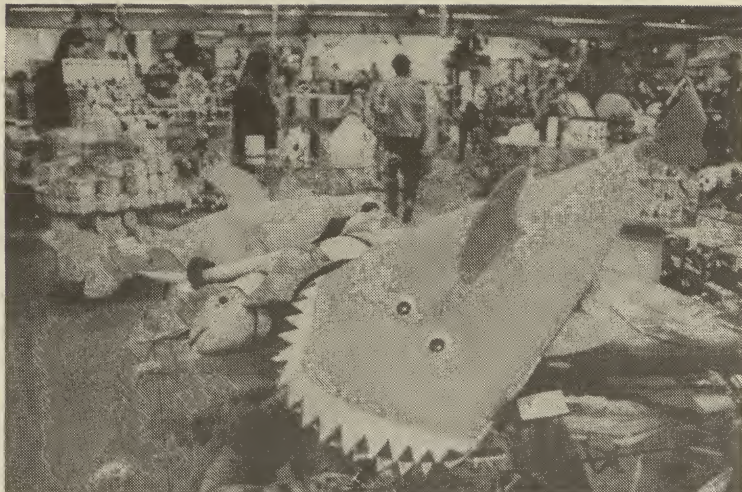
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Community News



The expanded and remodeled Market Street Headlines.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Extra! Extra! Hey Look at Headlines

by David O'Connor

Popular Bay Area retailer Headlines is undergoing a massive expansion at its Market Street location and has announced it intends to renovate the Castro and Polk Street stores in 1993.

Headlines owner Andy Kramer said the expansion and revamping is designed to better serve customers' changing needs.

"We have a brand new, fresh look and have added many new product lines," Kramer said.

The flagship Headlines store, on Market Street at Powell, has quadrupled its size in recent weeks, mostly through the addition of a brand new second floor.

The variety of fresh vendibles now includes a full range of housewares, racks of new and vintage clothing, and many styles of shoes and boots. Through an arrangement with Wild Wild West and Taming of the Shoe, Headlines now offers those



Customers check out some of the new merchandise available at Headlines.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

products in its Market Street store.

A Bass ticket outlet now operates at Headlines as well, and Kramer said he intends to add a coffee bar shortly.

Kramer launched the first Headlines in 1977 on Polk Street, and opened a Castro

Street store two years later. The shops proved so popular — especially with lesbian and gay consumers — there are now two stores on Castro Street and one in Emeryville, in addition to the Market Street location and the original Polk Street store. ▼

SF Top Cops Lobby To Overturn Military Ban

by David O'Connor

San Francisco Police Chief Tony Ribera has written a letter to General Colin Powell, advising him to go along with President-elect Bill Clinton's plan to lift the military ban on lesbians and gays.

"I felt that I had unique expertise in that I had probably directly managed more openly gay officers than anybody in law enforcement," Ribera told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "I thought it would have really been cowardly of me not to take a stand for these officers who have performed so well for me over the years."

Ribera said he did not intend for his letter to be made public but he hopes it will help to get the ban lifted.

In his letter to Powell, Ribera wrote, "In 1979, before the first openly gay officer entered our department I had

doubts about the propriety of hiring gays as police officers. However the events of the past 14 years have changed my thinking on the issue."

Ribera went on to say that while he was platoon commander in the Mission District, 20 of the 65 officers in his platoon were lesbian or gay.

"Our platoon was far and above the most productive in all measurable categories of performance among the city's 27 platoons," he wrote. "I would also note that during that five-year period there was not a single incident of unprofessional conduct by the gay and lesbian officers working for me."

"General Powell, I am not a flaming liberal advocating a cause," Ribera wrote. "I am in fact relatively conservative and a practicing Roman Catholic. However, I feel

morally compelled to acknowledge police officers who have given me and our department quality performance and loyalty."

Ribera told the *B.A.R.* he wanted lesbian and gay officers to know how much he has appreciated their work over the years.

San Francisco Police Lieutenant Alan Benner also has written about the impact of open gays and lesbians in the police force.

Benner's report, *The Process of Inclusion*, concluded that "issues surrounding inclusion of homosexuals is more hype than substance."

In discussing the effect of officers who have died of AIDS, Benner wrote, "the magnitude of our loss and the magnitude of our shared humanity made sexual orientation a miniscule, irrelevant, and petty factor." ▼



The Election Of Our Lives Is Over. The Fight For Equality Goes On.

The Boards of Directors and Governors, the staff and members of the Human Rights Campaign Fund are proud of our contributions to the Clinton/Gore Campaign and the effort to assert the power of lesbian and gay Americans in national politics. We look back with pride on a campaign which resulted in a victory for a pro-lesbian and gay Presidential ticket and a record number of co-sponsors for the Federal Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill. We will continue to fight for full equality for lesbian and gay Americans and urge you to join us in our efforts.

Here are some of the highlights of our work in Campaign '92.

- Twenty-three Human Rights Campaign Fund staff left Washington to work with our members on presidential, senatorial, congressional and referenda campaigns in 17 states.
- Over \$700,000 was contributed to candidates, Party committees and other PACs, including funds to 20 Senate and 159 House races.
- There was unprecedented media coverage of the lesbian and gay community as a political force.
- Ten thousand volunteers from the Campaign Fund membership worked in the Clinton/Gore and other campaigns.
- Millions of dollars were raised from the Campaign Fund boards, members and staff for the Clinton/Gore campaign, the Democratic Victory Fund and our other endorsed candidates.
- The Campaign Fund assisted in four referenda states by putting three staff into Oregon, one into Colorado and one into Maine. We also consulted with and advised all four campaigns throughout the year, made cash contributions to Oregon and Colorado and made our mailing lists available to them. Finally, we arranged for a loan to Portland, ME to pay for their media.
- Over 150 membership house parties were held to generate volunteers for Clinton/Gore and other candidates.
- Almost 2,000 videos of the Clinton speech to a lesbian and gay fundraiser in Los Angeles were distributed nationally.
- More than 1,000 copies of the *Come Out Voting* advertisement were distributed to lesbian and gay bars, house parties, etc. The spot ran as paid media and as a public service announcement on television stations around the country. Thousands of *Come Out Voting* posters were also distributed.
- The new Congress will start off with 21 co-sponsors of the Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill in the Senate and 117 in the House, up from 17 and 109 respectively.
- Bill Clinton, Al Gore and 71% of our endorsed candidates won.
- Half our PAC contributions went to non-incumbents.
- The PAC supported 49 women, 47 people of color and 15 Republicans.
- Polling after the Republican convention showed that the Bush/Quayle Campaign's use of gay-baiting and appeals to so-called "family values" hurt them with the American people.
- Campaign fund volunteers worked with the Democratic National Committee to distribute 100,000 ballot cards supporting Clinton/Gore. We also sent out 3,000 Gay and Lesbian Vote signs, thousands of Gay and Lesbian Voters for Clinton/Gore buttons and hundreds of t-shirts for use around the country.
- Exit polls taken by the *New York Times* showed that lesbians and gays voted 72% for Clinton, 14% for Bush and 14% for Perot.

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New Info in Gay Sailor's Death

By Bill Behrens

As reported last week in the *Bay Area Reporter*, the U.S. Navy has recently revealed that a gay sailor was beaten to death in October, possibly because of his sexuality.

Petty Officer Richard Allen Schindler of Chicago Heights was murdered October 27 in the bathroom of a public park near Sasebo Naval Base, a United States facility located on the Japanese island of Kuyshu. The Navy arrested two of the murdered man's shipmates in connection with the killing shortly after it occurred.

New information reveals that Schindler was "severely beaten" by his assailants. "I viewed my son's body" after it was shipped home in early November, Dorothy Hajdys told this reporter. "All that was left of his face was the tip of his nose sticking out, so they must have taken his head and just slammed it into the sink over and over again." The Navy identified the body by Schindler's fingerprints, Hajdys said.

"The only way we knew for sure it was my son" was because the family recognized the tattoos on Schindler's arms, Hajdys said. "Otherwise you couldn't prove to us it was him."

Stull was reluctant to admit that Schindler had been beaten beyond recognition. "I would like to say 'severely beaten.' Whether it was beyond recognition or not would be a matter for the investigation," Stull said. "Obviously, the beating resulted in his death."

At the time of his murder, the 22-year-old Schindler was "being processed for administrative discharge ... due to self-admitted homosexuality," a Navy spokesperson from Japan said.

"We are fully investigating [Schindler's] homosexuality as well as all other motives in this case," said Commander Mark Stull, public affairs officer for the commander of the Naval Forces in Japan. "We have not been able to determine that there were any threats made against [Schindler] because he was gay."

Arrested in connection with the killing were Naval Airman Charles Vins and Airman Apprentice Terry Helvey, both 20 years old. The two were stationed along with Schindler on the amphibious ship U.S.S. Belleauwood, and on the night of the killing, all three were "on liberty," which means they had completed their duties for the day and were free until the next morning.

Vins was court martialed by the Navy and found guilty November 23 of three charges: failure to report an offense; resisting apprehension; and failure to report a serious offense.

"[Vins] failed to report the assault which ended in the death of Schindler," Stull said. He was "awarded a bad conduct discharge, confinement for one year, reduction in rank and total forfeiture of all allowances and benefits."

Helvey, the second suspect, is currently being held on suspicion of the murder, Stull said. Helvey is in pre-trial confinement in Yokosuka, Japan, about ten miles from Sasebo.

The Navy has been very tight-lipped about the circumstances surrounding Schindler's death, Hajdys said. "Two men [from the Navy] came to my door and told me that my son was dead. They told me that he had been assaulted in a park ... and that he was beaten to death. At that time they knew it was two people who had done it. They didn't know anything about the men and they didn't have them in custody yet."

"Two days later they came and they told me that they had two suspects in custody, and that one of them had confessed to the crime and the

other one was taking the Fifth Amendment. And that's all I knew. I knew that they were two white men; I didn't know if they were sailors; I didn't know if they were from his ship; I didn't know anything. I just knew that they were [from the] military

rate. "Suspension of any charges cannot take place until the convening authority reviews the case, which has not taken place yet," Stull said.

Hajdys said no one was interested in the murder until *Pacific Stars and Stripes*, a military magazine, reported that Schindler might have been killed because he was gay. This disclosure just came out on December 13, which would have been Schindler's 23rd birthday. "Everything's just broke loose," said Hajdys, who doesn't believe her son was gay.

"A little over a year ago, he told my daughter and me that he thought he was gay, but we never believed him," Hajdys said. "We believe he was just confused."

Hajdys said her son told his commanding officers he was gay because he hated where he was stationed. Although he loved the Navy, "my son would have done

anything to get off that ship," she said.

Hajdys said she was upset because any trial that might result for Hadley will be held in Japan. "I don't think that's fair. I think I should be able to go to it. I think I should be able to hear — not by people telling me what the guy said, not by reading what the testimony is — I should be able to hear what this guy says my son did that was so terrible for him to beat him beyond recognition."

"And I'd like to know how this other guy who only got four months can live with himself knowing that he stood there and watched this guy beat him to death. To me, he's an accessory. If it was a regular trial and wasn't military, he sure wouldn't get off with four months."

Stull said there would be no word on a trial until their investigation is complete, which should be "in the next two to three weeks." However, any trial that might result would be the sole jurisdiction of the U.S. Navy.

"The next step [after the investigation] would depend on what was recommended," Stull said, but he added, "We intend to prosecute to the fullest extent. I want to make that very clear."

Stull confirmed that any trial would most likely be held in Japan "because all the witnesses and everyone else are here and it occurred here," he said. "Generally, court martials are open," he added, but said he didn't know how Hajdys could get to Japan if she wanted to be there. Hajdys said she cannot afford to get there on her own.

"I talked to one lawyer who says there's nothing I can do," Hajdys said, "because the military is immune to everything... It's been seven weeks since my son was murdered and I don't know that much more than I knew when he died. And [the Navy] doesn't care."

"People keep telling you the pain is going to get better, but it keeps getting worse." ▼

"All that was left of his face was the tip of his nose."

because they were in the brig."

A day or two later, a man accompanied Schindler's body home to Illinois and came to Hajdys' house. "He told us that the one suspect, the one who confessed, was 6'4", weighed 240 lbs. and was a body-builder," Hajdys said. "We knew that my son was 5'11" and weighed 170. He said that ... the rumors had gone around that my son had fallen and hit his head on the sink, and that's how he died."

The man who confessed, according to Hajdys, was Hadley, who has not yet been charged with any crime. Navy spokesman Stull would not confirm that Hadley had at one point confessed.

"We hadn't gotten that much information except that the two guys were under investigation and that the investigation hasn't been completed," Hajdys said. "I've been told that the two men had been drinking some beer earlier that day, then they went to a movie, and then they had been drinking some more beer. They told me that my son was at a party, and he went down this hill to the public bathroom. And when he went into the public bathroom, these two men assaulted him."

"Then, about a week-and-a-half ago, we were informed that the one guy [Vins] who had taken the Fifth Amendment supposedly had not done anything [to my son]. He just sat there and watched my son getting killed. He didn't do anything; he didn't touch him. But he let the other guy do it. He didn't do anything to stop it."

Hajdys added that it was her understanding that Vins' one-year prison sentence was being reduced to four months in exchange for his testimony against Hadley. However, Stull said that was not accu-

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QW Magazine: Once Perfect-Bound, Now Folded

by Jim Provenzano

After little over a year, New York's weekly gay news magazine *QW* has temporarily folded, due to increasing debt and the death of its CEO and primary investor, William Chafin, who had "poured over a million dollars into it," according to former publisher Troy Masters.

"We've suspended publication," said News Editor Andrew Jacobs, who said the magazine will return in a bi-weekly format sometime next year. "We need \$400,000 and have raised about \$100,000." About the sudden money crunch which drove publication to a standstill, Jacobs said, "we thought Bill was going to leave us money to continue, but when his will was opened, there wasn't any."

The magazine, which released its first issue over a year ago, has not published in over three weeks. Editor Mayor Roshan, however, was said to have investors waiting in the wings. Rumors that *Spin* Magazine may buy them were printed in *New York* magazine last week.

In a city reputed to be the center of publishing, with an estimated 1 million lesbians and gay men, only a handful of local gay publications thrive, each with its own eccentric brand of "journalism," from *The New York Native* to the free bar weekly *Homo Extra*.

QW, formerly *NYQ*, was started by two former *OutWeek* advertising salespeople, Troy Masters and Colleen Mangan. From the outset, serving as co-publishers, they sought to pick up the slack from *OutWeek* and provide some advocacy-oriented editorial focus. They also aimed for a co-gender editorial base, and benefitted from the design talents of Vincent Gagliostro, who created many of ACT UP NY's more visually arresting campaigns. The weekly publication met with eager response early on.

The subsequent name change from *NYQ*, spurred by complaints from the literary *New York Quarterly*, left readers confused, but *QW* caught on quickly. It did however, lose a portion of the gay and lesbian community with its \$2 cover price (more outside New York City). Interviews with leading gay figures like Larry Kramer, Gore Vidal, and Andrew Sullivan brought *QW* mainstream attention.

But the focus gradually shifted from hard news to more lifestyle features, including zine-type drag fashion spreads and photo essays on clothing designers. *QW* also came under fire from some freelance writers whose work was altered, which they maintained had considerably changed the intent of their stories. The co-gender goals of the publication changed as well when co-publisher Colleen Mangan left the magazine. Co-Editor Avril McDonald was also replaced. "Slowly the women started to leave," said photographer Michael Wakefield. "I think they were struggling to find a crowd."

Yet, despite the definitive "how not to publish" experi-

ence gleaned from *OutWeek*, *QW* continued to make the same mistakes; building up a large debt and trying to compensate for it with lifestyle pieces aimed at advertisers.

The AIDS illness and death of CEO William Chafin in October signaled further financial trouble. Chafin was the primary investor. "He never stopped giving the magazine money, even at the worst time of his life," said Masters.

The down time is serving to help the staff replan the format and content of *QW*. "We'll relaunch in January as a biweekly," said Jacobs, "with a more national focus, less news, more features. We're the same core staff, and we're talking with David Parker of *The Nation* about being the publisher." Through Chafin's illness, publisher Troy Masters cared for him, as well as another close friend who was dying of AIDS. According to Jacobs, Masters did not fulfill his duties as publisher. "He will not be a part of the new publication," he said.

About his not being asked to continue as publisher, Master said, "I'm glad it's over. They were never on budget. They were never on time." He cited "out-of-control free-wheeling spending. Bill just continued to write checks for it. My role was to keep Bill writing them. He did it, to a million dollars three days before he died."

The absence of a weekly newspaper, with or without the new *QW*, still leaves a gap in information for lesbians, gays, and bisexuals in New York.

"The glamour input is what hurt it," said one journalist. "There was too much interest in fabulism." The issue of content raises questions as to what kind of publication can survive New York's competitive publishing world.

"The successful model has always been a free paper," said Mark Schoofs, former editor of the *Windy City Times*. Schoofs is in the stages of developing a free weekly newspaper in New York, *The New York Independent*, but is still seeking more investors.

"You have to have a meat-and-potatoes attitude about the editorial," he said. "People want to know what's happening." He noted *QW*'s shift toward *Details*-type fashion spreads were more a lifestyle trend and not community-based. But Schoofs did point out some of the superior writing that was published in *QW*'s short life, from Charles Kaiser's essay "Tempting the Virus" to the news scoop of outing abortion foe Phyllis Schlafly's son.

"I thought they were coming along nicely," said Victor Zonana, founder of the New York chapter NLGJA (National Lesbian and Gay Journalists' Association), *LA Times* staff writer, and a contributor to *QW*. About the proposed new format, Zonana considers it "a sound strategy. *The Advocate* and *Out* are doing well. That seems to be the formula."

"We're off to a good start," said Editor Maer Roshan. "We're doing things we should have done." Along

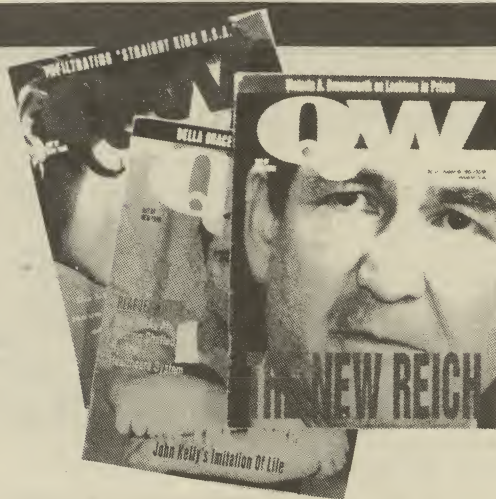
with Parker creating a new business plan, photographer Stephen Meisel, who most recently shot Madonna's *Sex*, is one of the new investors.

"One problem with gay journalism is that it starts out as a cause, and we forget the business angle," Roshan said. "Editorial's job is to take care of the writing and should not be compromised." The response from investors is a sign of the times, said Roshan. "It tells you more about the openness of the business."

"I'm excited about the potential of it," he said. "We probably could do it on very little money. We had done it on six people a week, but it was really tough, it was like being on drugs."

He is quick to point out the positive aspects of the magazine. "We were the only gay magazine to interview Bill Clinton. We sued to get inside Guantanamo Bay [the military base where Haitian immigrants with AIDS have been quarantined]."

He also added that it will still have AIDS information, from both a medical, activist and interpretative viewpoint. "Gay publications have an important job right now," Roshan said, noting that previously, gay magazines were not thought of as business-worthy. As much as it is the duty of a gay publication to provide information and entertain, it also must stay alive.



"The possibility exists that someone will step in and put it together," said Masters. "It'll be a monumental task. We went through a million dollars in one year." Masters agrees that the best scenario would be a biweekly with start up costs of \$400,000.

Asked about the possibility of a free newspaper surviving New York, since they manage to do well in San Francisco, Masters said, "In New York publishing, it's a newsstand-driven city. It's different here. I don't understand why it doesn't work here."

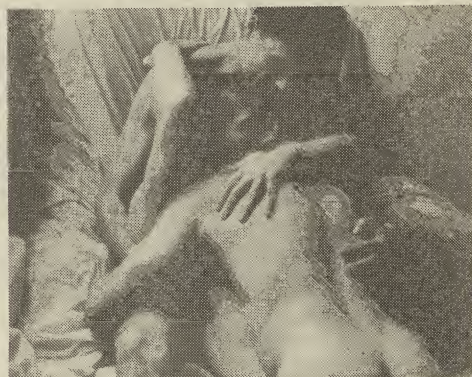
Timing as well as social and political factors played a part in the difference of the two magazines. "*QW* came to the community in a very difficult time. The back room culture start to take hold. With ACT UP waning, the energy that *OutWeek* had, which was the energy of the

new glamour of activism, was not there for *QW*." He does note that *QW* at its peak had a wider New York circulation than *OutWeek*.

"It's going to take a lot of capital," said Masters. "They need someone like Bill [Chafin], who knows they're gonna die, who passionately pours every penny into it. They need a super tight business structure, with people who are dedicated to the bottom line." Of Chafin's money donations, he called *QW* "a benevolent organization."

Is a free gay newspaper needed to survive in New York? "I don't know whether it has to be free," said Zonana. "Information is something that is valuable." And with the lack of a gay focus on New York issues, he said, "I think the information void is palpable." ▼

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The Dream Lodge Experience happens only four times a year, once in the Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer. Workshops are designed as rituals that touch the body, mind and soul. The upcoming Dream Lodge Experience will be held at the Isis Oasis Retreat Center in Sonoma County. Because of the intense nature of the work, enrollment is limited to 20 people. The cost of a life-transforming weekend, including accommodations, meals and the Dream Lodge Experience is \$250.00. A deposit of \$100.00 is required to secure your reservation.

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Scientists Report Encouraging Vaccine News

United Press International

WASHINGTON — An experimental vaccine has produced the strongest and longest-lasting protection ever reported against an AIDS-like disease in monkeys, researchers reported December 17.

A vaccine made from a genetically defective version of a virus that causes an AIDS-like disease in monkeys appeared to protect four rhesus monkeys against infection

with the normally deadly virus, the researchers said.

"This is a significant advance in our search for an HIV vaccine," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, which funded the research.

"Their model can teach us a great deal about what constitutes protective immunity, information that will help us design more effective HIV vaccines," Fauci said.

Most experimental AIDS

vaccines being tested are made from genetically engineered versions of pieces of the virus that can stimulate the immune system to mount a protective response against the virus.

But in a report published in the journal *Science*, Ronald Desrosiers of the New England Regional Primate Research Center in Southborough, Massachusetts, and his colleagues reported using a different strategy.

The researchers injected test monkeys with genetically defective but living samples of the simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV). SIV causes an AIDS-like disease in monkeys similar to the illness that the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) causes in humans.

More than three years after receiving the vaccine, and more than eight months after they were injected with unaltered SIV, all four monkeys

were alive and apparently healthy, the researchers said.

In addition, the researchers injected the monkeys again with infectious SIV three years after they had been vaccinated and their immune systems appeared to respond just as strongly as they had immediately after they were initially vaccinated, the researchers said.

In contrast, 11 of 12 unvaccinated monkeys injected with SIV at the same time had died, they said.

No other experimental vaccine has produced such a strong, long-lasting response.

"This SIV vaccine has given the first indication of truly strong protection against immunodeficiency virus challenge," said Margaret Johnston, associate director of NIAID's division of AIDS basic research and development program.

Desrosier's team created

the vaccine by deleting one SIV gene known as *nef*. *Nef*'s function is unknown. The defect, however, produces an "attenuated" version of the virus that is living but harmless.

Attenuated viruses have been used in the past to make vaccines against other diseases. But researchers have been cautious about using the approach for AIDS. Scientists fear that the attenuated virus may mutate back into a version that can cause AIDS or cancer.

In response, Desrosiers and his colleagues have begun testing other attenuated SIV strains containing four or five genetic defects to see if they are equally effective. If they are, they could be safer. "We are going to push our system to see how good it really is," Desrosiers said. ▽

Feeling down?
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The UCSF Positive Education Project

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DaunoXome vs Combination Chemotherapy (Adriamycin, Bleomycin and Vincristine)

For people with Kaposi's sarcoma and at least 5 untreated lesions. DaunoXome is provided at no cost to patient.

Itraconazole vs Fluconazole

For people with AIDS-related cryptococcal meningitis. There are two studies, one for treatment and one for maintenance to prevent relapse. Itraconazole and Fluconazole are provided at no cost to patient.

Oral 882C87 vs Oral Acyclovir

For people with acute localized herpes zoster (shingles). Patients must receive drug within 72 hours of rash onset. 882C87 and Acyclovir are provided at no cost to patient. Patients will receive an honorarium for study participation.

Clarithromycin vs Placebo

For people with fewer than 100 T4 cells and a negative blood culture for MAC. The study provides life-long MAC cultures and routine laboratory testing. Clarithromycin is provided at no cost to patient.

For more information about these and other studies contact HIVCare Client Coordinator Drew Catapano at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.

Trading Card Series Launched To Increase AIDS Awareness

by Dennis Conkin

Eclipse Publishing, a Forestville, California, company that has already stirred up controversy with its "True Crime" trading card series, has announced plans to market a 110-card "AIDS Awareness" set of trading cards in February.

The new cards will feature drawings of public figures with AIDS — such as Rock Hudson, Kimberly Bergalis, pro-football player Jerry Smith, and Ryan White — plus important biographical information on the subjects, in the manner of baseball trading cards. According to Catherine Yronwode, the editor of the project, additional cards will also focus on living with AIDS, opportunistic infections, women with AIDS, infection transmission routes, and prevention. Cards will be sold in packs of 12, with a condom included in each pack.

"We're ordering half a million condoms," Yronwode said.

Yronwode told the *Bay Area Reporter* that 15 percent of the profits from the sale of the cards will go to Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, a nonprofit group that provides direct cash assistance to people with AIDS in the entertainment industry.

Most of the people featured in the cards will be celebrities from the entertainment industry, such as actors, opera singers, and ballet dancers, but there will also be fashion designers, sports stars, and political personalities, Yronwode said.

And, according to Yronwode, AIDS activists such as longtime survivor Michael Callen and playwright Larry Kramer are also featured, even though they are not well-known outside the gay and AIDS activism community.



Rock Hudson as he will appear on new AIDS trading cards.

Other cards in the series will also focus on information and referral hotline numbers, including Gay Mens Health Crisis, the AIDS Project Los Angeles, and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

The Reagan/Bush card in the series notes that Magic Johnson quit the AIDS panel and that AIDS groups are critical of the administration's neglect of the disease.

Another card details alternative beliefs concerning the origin of the disease, including the "possibility of biochemical warfare gone awry, or a polio vaccine gone awry," Yronwode said.

Still another card includes instructions for donning a condom — and includes a full color painting of a man putting a condom on an erect penis.

Eclipse publishes 23 series of trading cards, including popular sets on jazz music; on

the Negro Baseball league; and on famous mass murderers such as Kenneth Bianchi, one of the "Hillside Stranglers" sex killers. That set was so popular it spawned a second series, a rash of news reports, and a \$5 million lawsuit that Bianchi filed from his Walla Walla, Washington prison cell, where he is now serving a life sentence.

Although Yronwode acknowledges that AIDS trading cards are controversial — and that there have been strong protests from right-wing political groups opposed to the condoms distribution in the packs, she notes that all the figures used in the packs are public figures.

"And some people on the left have said that we're profiting off the blood of the dead, but hey, I'm an editor," she told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Yronwode said that trading cards are part of the popular culture and that, besides appealing to collectors, the AIDS Awareness trading cards are also a way of educating people who don't know much about the disease.

"I spoke with a reporter from a sports trading card magazine. He expressed that he was really shook up that Magic Johnson was the first heterosexual man in America who had contracted AIDS. He really believed that," Yronwode said.

The cards will retail for 99 cents a pack.

Yronwode said that the cards are available at a "deep discount" for AIDS and lesbian and gay human rights groups who want to sell them as a way of raising funds for their organizations. ▽

Focus on ... Continuum

by K. Bradley Hudson

"It's a 100 percent class act," says one member, named Reggie. "Any problem you have, they take care of it. That's why they call it Continuum. Think about it."

"They" — the HIV-positive men and women who depend on Continuum's programs — also call it a community, or a family, and say they're members and not just clients.

Continuum HIV Day Services, located at Ten United Nations Plaza (Market at McAllister Street), was among the first community-based adult health care centers in the world designed specifically to serve people living with AIDS. Licensed by the State of California in July 1990, it is based on the model of state-licensed and Medicaid-eligible geriatric care facilities, but adapted to the needs of a younger — and intermittently sicker — population with AIDS. Some describe the facility as day care center for grown-ups, and mean no disrespect by the term.

Others, however, have been more critical of Continuum, primarily over what they see as its relatively high overhead: about 24 percent of the nonprofit organization's budget is eaten up by administrative and fundraising costs, leaving only 76 percent of the budget for program services.

Continuum members — 83 percent of whom are low- or no-income and on MediCal — don't care much about the financial issues as long as the services continue to be offered free of charge. For the center to be able to do so this year has required slightly more than \$1 million in funding, provided in roughly equal measure by private contributors, state and federal monies, and reimbursements from MediCal.

Continuum operates Monday through Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., assisting people with AIDS and disabling ARC by providing meals, activities, medical case management and nursing services, psycho-social services, physical therapy, and a place to belong.

"What makes us special," says Executive Director Jim Illig, "is the way we offer consolidated services. Instead of going all over town, members can get most of their needs met under one roof."

Programs, which vary according to each member's needs and input, include art workshops; classes on everything from stress management to money management; help obtaining a G.E.D.; activities such as swimming, bowling, and astrology workshops; and emotional support groups.

Artistic expression, led by Artist-in-Residence Ellen Felcher Burns, plays a substantial role in enriching the lives of many of Continuum's members. Burns, whose part-time position is funded by a grant from the California Arts Council, believes art can play an important role in healing. "So much of healing can't be done on a medical level," she says. "People need to heal their hearts. So many of our members are disenfranchised and haven't had a lot of love in their lives. Art gives them a chance to open up and start

feeling and expressing."

The results of all this feeling and expression are numerous works of art — paintings, ceramic wall plates, icons, masks, jewelry and other wearable art — by members.

"Our approach is different than other service organizations," says Alice Tarkeshi, activities coordinator at Continuum. "This center acts as a spiritual magnet that draws people together. We've formed a community that strives to go beyond limited views and is open to all forms of self-expression."

Continuum's 105 members attend as often or as little as they like: most days there are 35 to 40 members in attendance. Because many PWAs often resist losing control, the daily program, while structured, is flexible. Transportation to and from the facility is provided for those who need it, and members are encouraged to stay for the entire day, from the 9:30 a.m. breakfast to the 3 p.m. wrap-up meeting.

Bill is one of the center's newer members. He joined Continuum December 4, and now comes six days a week. "I wasn't sure about this place at first," he tells the *Bay Area Reporter*. "My lover and I were new to San Francisco and we were living in a small hotel room. He would have to go to work and I would be stuck there for the whole day with nothing to do. I got curious about Continuum."

"I remember my first day, walking up the steps from MUNI thinking, 'I really don't like being pinned in all day.' But as time went by it seemed like they gave you a lot of freedom. Freedom to do different activities and just to be able to say what's on your mind."

While the average member attends ten days per month, there are many members like Bill who attend as often as six days a week. It is a way to break the daily isolation that leads to the depression often faced by many PWAs, they say, especially for the 47 percent of Continuum's members who live alone.

In addition to offering a place where PWAs feel they belong, Continuum also offers peace of mind for members' partners, families, and friends. Mark Arseneau, who is Continuum's program director, experienced this first hand. His lover was a member prior to Arseneau assuming his post there.

"Continuum really helped me because during the day I would be constantly worried about my partner staying home alone. He was becoming isolated and depressed. Once he started coming here I saw a marked difference. He was dealing with the disease and was more positive about living," Arseneau says.

A recent Saturday is a typical example of the often non-typical days at Continuum.

After breakfast is over, it's time for Community Check-in: "a time," as Clinical Supervisor Dossie Easton explains, "that gives us a chance to hear from everyone."

First, someone reads a passage from the book *Color of Light*. "[AIDS is the result of] too little love, not too much sex. ... My sexual energy is pure and divine."



Sonoma Store owner Ann Thornton hosted a benefit for Continuum.
(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

Then everyone says a few words about a topic sentence. Today's is: "What art has done for me" — apropos on a day when Continuum is holding one of its many annual art shows and sales. The responses are varied and thoughtful.

"Allowed me a place to express my feelings."

"Helps me forget about my own problems."

"Art hasn't done anything for my life."

Check-in is also a time to review the day's activities and sign-up for lunch duty. The community, including staff members, shares the duties of setting up, serving, and cleaning up after the day's meals.

Following Saturday's Check-in, members had the choice of attending the HIV Support Group or 'German for Fun' led by one of Continuum's volunteers.

The HIV support group differs from those available on the outside, according to

Tarkeshi. "Because members spend time together during other activities, we really do build a sense of community. That allows us to develop more knowledge, compassion, and understanding of each other."

Lunch follows the support group, and then members prepare for the afternoon art show, scheduled from 1 to 3 p.m.

Berni, a member of Continuum since its beginning, has a number of pieces on display. As is the case with many of the artists represented at the show, most of his works are for sale, with 80 percent of the proceeds going to the artist and 20 percent to Continuum.

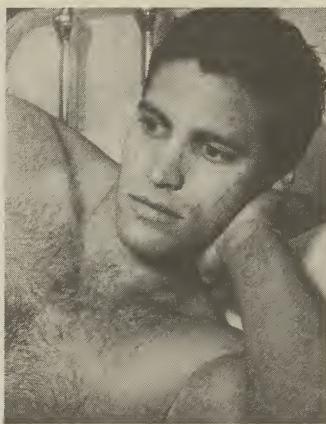
Berni says he's always doing something in the art department. "I used to work 12 hours a day," he says. "When I was no longer able to do that I had to find other ways

to occupy my time. It has also helped me come to terms with my religious upbringing." Berni's art reflects both his Coptic beliefs and homosexuality. "Mixing religious and erotic images has sometimes gotten me in a little trouble," he says, "but it has allowed me to realize I can be Catholic and a gay man at the same time."

While daily activities vary, medical care at Continuum remains constant. As some members clean up from lunch and others prepare for the art show, nurse Jo Schmidt examines another member. "There's something there," she tells him as she listens to his lungs. "We need to get you in to see someone."

It is this kind of early intervention and advocacy that hastens the reporting, diagnosis, and treatment of symptoms, Illig believes. "We find we can help prevent some hospitalizations," he says, "and if a hospital stay is necessary, often we can shorten it with a discharge plan that puts the member back here with supervised case management. It's a tremendous savings to the taxpayer." Nurses can also provide infusions, medical set-ups and do blood draws on-site.

Illig hopes to see Continuum's model and a similar one in New York replicated in other communities. "This is a health care community and you don't hear those words used together too often," he says. "At Continuum the nurses and staff get to know you very well. You're not just a cog in a wheel or a number on a chart." ▼



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For more information (in Spanish, English, or Filipino), call the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Hotline at **1-800-367-2437**



Funding provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health and foundation, corporate and individual donations.

Obituaries

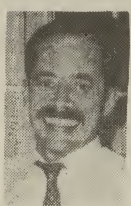
David Lee Romero

July 15, 1952-Dec. 16, 1992

David died of AIDS in the arms of his good and dear friend, Donald Vickstrom. He was born and raised in the Bay Area and in the 1970s was very active in the gay community. He was a professional photographer and many of his photographs of the Gay Freedom Parades have been displayed throughout the Bay Area. He was very dedicated to his beliefs and convictions and was very proud of his lifestyle. He touched and enriched many lives and will be missed by us all. He was a fighter for life, but now is at rest. He is survived by his loving daughter Ashley Nicole Romero, his former wife and friend, Laurie Pepper, brothers George and Robert Romero, and a sister Anita Vork. ▽

Carlos Crummett

Carlos Crummett passed away at his home in San Francisco from AIDS related complications.



During his illness he had been in the care of his mother, Mrs. Angelita Crummett of Calexico, his partner of seven years, Paul Buzzell, and had the welcomed support of his sisters Mary Feeley and Carmen Betancourt of San Diego, Angie Crummett-Sandoval of Tampa, Dolores McQuilkin of Menlo Park, Felicia Dean of Moraga, Teresa Crummett of Los Angeles, and brother Jose Crummett of Placerville.

Carlos was a 1978 graduate of Stanford University and had been the Cost Accounting Manager for Specialty Brands, Inc., in San Francisco since 1985. Always the life of any party, his keen sense of humor and ready laugh that persevered through the worst of his illness will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Funeral services for Carlos were held at St. Dominic's Church in San Francisco on December 22. Interment to be held in Calexico, CA. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to Project Open Hand, 2270 17th St., SF, 94110. ▽

Scott Dias

April 16, 1964-Sept. 25, 1992

Scott's last words were "Really, I'm alright." Four hours later he was gone. Once Scott made up his mind about something he made it happen, he was always in complete control. Three days earlier he said, "I'm tired of this. I feel like tomorrow I won't be able to get out of bed" and he was right. But from that last day in bed he was able to say goodbye and express his love to his lover of ten years, Kevin Sanchez; his mother, Marion Dias; and his lifelong pal Connie Perrin. Early the next day Scott slipped out of that body, that he had been struggling with for two years.

Scott left a lot of beauty in the lives of those he knew. He loved to decorate and was asked by all of his friends and family for advice about what to do with a room. His taste was expensive but always comfortable. He also was very comfortable. He approached life and people with ease. He always seemed to fit in wherever he was. Scott never dwelled on the negative aspect of anything. He had little tolerance for phony intention but an incredible openness for being human. Scott hid his illness from no one and thought nothing of going shopping or taking car trips out of town to visit friends and his family, even when AIDS had become itself obvious. He never complained or seemed fearful of other's reactions and his beautiful blue eyes always had your attention.

Scott, you always believed in me and you kept your faith through it all. You once said, "I feel my spirit growing" and I could see you found great comfort in that. Until I'm a spirit, I will miss you. I long for those quiet times. Good bye, puppy. I love you.

Scott is also survived by three brothers: Mark, Mike and Steve, who he talked to almost daily, his father, Ceaser; his friend Sissy; and many nieces and nephews and other family who will miss him deeply. ▽

Anthony Samel

May 5, 1952-Dec. 17, 1992

With his two closest friends and his sister by his side, Tony took his brilliant wit and insight with him to the next world, early Thursday morning. Tony fought a strenuous 3-year battle with such ferocity, pride and dignity, that he was an inspiration and source of strength for everyone who knew him. He was loved intensely by his companion Roger Tellis, and by his sister Maria O'Shaghnessy.

As an RN, Tony devoted many years of his life to helping others at Kaiser Hospital in San Francisco, where he worked in the intensive care unit. He had an intense pride and unrelenting sense of responsibility about his work. Tony enjoyed renovating properties in San Francisco, and left his tasteful mark on many properties in the city he loved.

Tony was a best friend, a loving companion, a devoted brother, a best buddy, and drop-dead gorgeous. A former cover boy of Drummer, and poster boy for the I Beam, Tony had the smile, personality, and body that made guys want to move to SF.

Tony was dearly loved, and will be dearly missed. ▽

Rick Weil

Sept. 9, 1951-Dec. 11, 1992

As Ricky choreographed so many of the events of his last weeks, he asked that his obituary include little of the usual information. It is enough to say that the gentle spirit of Rick Weil left his body on December 11, 1992. It is enough to say

that his work in the world had always been to serve with joy and kindness all who knew him. Ricky termed his death a transformation and spoke almost not at all of AIDS which claimed his beauty but never his spirit. He asked that Peter, his lover of nine years, be acknowledged for the constant tender care he gave, and friends Bob, Judy, and Carol for their love and guidance. Ricky's family and friends celebrated his life with tea at the Sheraton Palace, a room just grand enough to reflect the luminosity of his spirit and echo his incredible laughter. Ricky's ashes will be scattered from the Senate gallery at the March on Washington, probably to be swept up like sawdust on the floor of that Good Old Boy's bar. But hundreds of thousands will know the difference. We're Queer. We're here. And we've transformed AIDS into power and love. ▽

Danny Day

Danny L. Day of San Francisco, CA, expired on December 5, 1992.



Surviving him are his mother, Frances Holston; father, Jesse Day; two brothers Marvin Day, Sr. and Frankie C. Day; and two sisters Charlotte Day Johnson and Gloria Day Boyer, all of Atlanta, GA.

Danny will be sorely missed by his family and a host of friends in the San Francisco area. ▽

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Eric Ward

Feb. 18, 1963-Dec. 17, 1992

Eric ended his long struggle with AIDS on December 17, 1992 at home in the presence of his parents. Eric faced the many challenges of his illness without losing his special sweetness or his courage and perseverance.

Eric grew up in Sedro Woolley, Washington, where he excelled in music and theater and finished high school in three years. He was passionate about animals and worked at animal shelters in Washington and the Bay Area. He came to the Bay Area to attend Stanford University and stayed to become a special friend to many. He graduated from Stanford in 1986 with a degree in Asian Studies. He also studied for one year at the University of Taiwan, where he became fluent in Chinese.

Eric had so many passions and talents: Speaking Chinese, caring for his parrot, Chewy and cat, Jezebel, cooking, building furniture, creating wonderful and sexy Halloween costumes (he was always a hit at Living Sober dances), Country/Western dancing, old movies, hot tubbing at the Russian River, spiritual retreats and hot romance. Eric was a many faceted jewel. He brought a boyish enthusiasm and manly dedication to so many of his endeavors, it was easy for him to catch you up in his latest project. Eric had a brilliant and witty mind and a wonderful sense of humor which made knowing him and being his friend enervating and rewarding. As a very close friend of his, I was privileged to see many sides of Eric, the tender as well as raunchy, the brilliant mind as well as the vulnerable heart.

Eric is survived by his parents, Alice and John Ward; his sisters Nancy and Jeanne; his brother Jeff; three nieces and nephews; and his dear friends Jordan, Linley, David, Jim, Kim and Bennet.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, December 27 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Daphne Funeral Home, One Church Street at Hermann. Donations in Eric's memory may be made to Project Open Hand, 2720 17th St., SF 94110 or Project Inform, 1965 Market St., SF, 94114. ▽

Emelio P. DeAngelis

June 18, 1950-Sept. 27, 1992

Emelio died peacefully in the company of friends and family after a long struggle with AIDS.

He was born and raised in Rhode Island and moved to San Francisco in 1979. Here he worked at Granat Bros. jewelry in San Mateo and for a long time at Rabat Shoes in Noe Valley. He returned to Rhode Island in the late 1980s to care for his aging father.

Emelio loved people and enjoyed sharing his stories with them. His infectious smile and nasty laughter will be remembered by all who knew him. He was a salesman par excellence, a craftsman and a creator of one-of-a-kind jewelry.

During his illness, Emelio was well cared for by his good buddy Dorinda of the Rhode Island AIDS Foundation. He will be sadly missed by his many friends, both in San Francisco and Rhode Island.

Emelio, I know you are dancing wherever you are! ▽

Steven P. Novickas

Oct. 13, 1955-Nov. 9, 1992

Steve left us unexpectedly. He was a special person to all he met. He will always be remembered for thinking of others first, and for his sweet, kind and gentle nature.

Steve came to the Bay Area in 1987 from his native Chicago.

An intelligent soul, he was very interested in education. He graduated from Bogun High School, Chicago, in 1973. He attended Morraine Valley Community College and graduated with an A.A. in Banking Concepts. In Tampa, Florida, he attended St. Leo's college, majoring in Real Estate. Steve was a member of the Court of the Imperial Star Empire of Alameda county and held the title of Mr. G.Q.

Steve loved the nightlife and was always ready to party and boogie, anytime and anyplace. Steve's talents included modeling, decorating, entertaining, and his love for his fellow man.

Steve is survived by his parents, Ralph and Dolores Novickas; his brothers Michael and Raymond; and his lover, friend and companion of 15 years, Ralph A.K.A. (Connie) McFerren. We know he will be welcomed in heaven by his brother Richard and his grandparents, Ted and Victoria Dundualas, who have preceded him in passing.

He was laid to rest on November 13, 1992 at St. Casimir Lithuanian Cemetery in Chicago, Illinois. God saw he was weary and decided to take him home. We will miss you forever and you will always remain in our heart. ▽

George F. Zepp, Jr.

March 2, 1934-Dec. 7, 1992

George F. Zepp was born in Westminster, MD. Upon his graduation from Westminster High School in 1952, he served in the Army, and moved to San Francisco in March, 1959, where he resided in Twin Peaks. George's life

was filled with travel and collecting "objects d'art." He worked for Avis Rent-A-Car and lived in Denver during those years. He was a popular bartender at The Trap and Queen Mary's Pub, and a manager at Bo-jangles, all in San Francisco. His last position was as the National Sales Manager for Conrad Imports.

George devoted his last eleven years, since his diagnosis with HIV, to the single purpose of fighting AIDS. He was active in the development of the AIDS Memorial Grove and the AIDS Memorial Quilt, Project Open Hand, hosting a support group and hospice services. He was also a popular "charity" auctioneer.

He was a member of the American Society of Interior Designers, a member of the Steering Committee of DIFFA (Design Industries Foundation for AIDS-Northern California Chapter), and was honored as one of the recipients of a 1991 Design Achievement Award for *Unsung Heroes*.

George was elected into the APEX Hall of Fame for his efforts in building San Francisco's gay and lesbian sporting community. He was an organizer in the first Gay Olympics and a Commissioner of the Community Softball League. Among his favorite accomplishments was his stint as the 1990 Grand Marshall of the Great Tricycle Race, in which he won the title of "1st Mr. Tricycle."

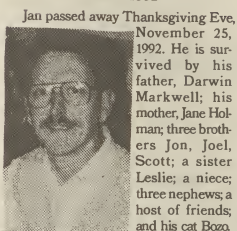
George will long be remembered for his great wit, elegant homes, lavish entertaining, his compassion and help to many friends who have passed on, his love of the arts, his generosity, the way he celebrated Christmas, his contributions to the gay and lesbian community, travel, hard work, and his devotion to life in spite of AIDS. George had a great will to live which he believed had much to do with his being one of the longest lived persons with HIV and AIDS.

George is survived by his foster brother, Keith D. Muller, and many wonderful and devoted friends, especially Donn Murray, Fran Steketee, Roger Hall, Jo Holland and his two beloved cats, his "children," Tina and Magic will miss him very much.

A memorial celebration will take place at the Swedenborgian Church located at 3200 Washington Street, San Francisco (415) 346-6466, on Saturday, January 9, 1993 at 3:00 p.m. A reception will follow the service. Also at George's request, friends will be invited to select items from George's pictures and Christmas decorations. ▽

Obituaries

Darwin Jan Markwell 1942-1992



Jan passed away Thanksgiving Eve, November 25, 1992. He is survived by his father, Darwin Markwell; his mother, Jane Holman; three brothers Jon, Joel, Scott; a sister Leslie; a niece, three nephews; a host of friends; and his cat Bozo.

Jan was born and reared in Kingman, Kansas. He was employed by Safeway Stores at the age of 20 years and was with their Systems Support Department in Northern California when he became ill and retired. He will be missed by his associates of 30-years who were constant visitors during his illness.

Jan was a world traveler, a collector of art, good books and antiques. He was a creative gardener, an avid reader, a lover of good music—a perfectionist.

Jan outlived his doctor's expectations and was a model of strength during his battle—traveling, enjoying the Symphony and was about to embark on a trip to Italy when his health deteriorated.

During the last few months of his illness, Jan was cared for in his home by his mother and by his good friend Wesley Tanigawa.

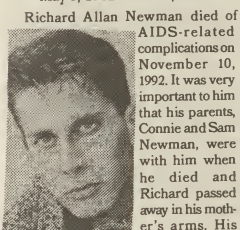
At his bedside at the time of death were his mother, brother Scott and friends Michael Stokes, Keith Schroeder and Jean Louis Huot.

His companion of 11 years, Stanley Koreyasu, predeceased him two years ago. His beloved cat Bozo is enjoying a leisurely life in Redwood City and from the ripe old age of 13 years, will likely live on and on.

A memorial service will be held in San Francisco in Jan's home at a later date. Family and friends will be notified of the date. Donations may be made in Jan's memory to Shanti Project, 525 Howard St., SF 94105 or S.F. Visiting Nurses and Hospice, 1390 Market St., SF 94102, on whose behalf Jan was a volunteer speaker.

Jan was like a soft breeze that touched life and brought with it more beauty, more love, more kindness and wonderful memories than a life can hold. ▼

Richard Allan Newman May 5, 1962-Nov. 10, 1992



Richard Allan Newman died of AIDS-related complications on November 10, 1992. It was very important to him that his parents, Connie and Sam Newman, were with him when he died and Richard passed away in his mother's arms.

His beloved grandmother Ida Toff, "Nannie," had died just a few days before. A loving man with an infectious laugh, Richard will be missed by the many family members and friends who loved him. He had a remarkable ability to surround himself with caring friends and managed to see the best in everyone. He faced his illness with tremendous courage and optimism.

Richard was a performer and loved an audience. A fashion and commercial model, Richard was a member of AFTRA and Equity and worked with Look Model Management, the Fraser Agency, Fraser-Nicklin Agency and The Nicklin Group. He had particularly beautiful hands and his hands may be seen on billboards and in print advertisements and computer manuals. Richard also performed in musical shows and plays throughout high school and junior college and with performance groups in the South Bay.

Before he became ill, Richard volunteered for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and was pleased to be named shift manager. He worked in management for the Claremont Hotel in Berkeley and the Stanford Park Hotel in Menlo Park.

Richard is dearly missed by his parents of Grass Valley, Calif., his brother Larry of Sunnyvale and everyone who loved him.

Donations in Richard's name may be made to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, P.O. Box 426182, SF, CA 94142. ▼

Thomas Dean Stonebraker (Tom)

Nov. 25, 1956-Dec. 15, 1992



Tom Stonebraker passed gently in his sleep on December 15, 1992. He is survived by his husband, Paul Robbins; brother Roger; Aunt Jean and Wava; and Margaret Melson, the woman he chose to be his mother.

Tom was loved dearly by his extended family and is missed by them: Cheryl, Sara, Dana, Jim, Robert, Bruce, Brian, Jaime, Deedee, Dick B., Thom, Robbi, Dick F., Pete, Russel, Ben and Abby.

Because of his kind, gentle way, Tom made friends wherever he went. Some of those special people include Michael, Mario, Darryl, Ron Paul, Paul, Otis, Sharon, Kate, Tony, Julie, Donna, Vince, Greg, Dianne, Irv, Bob, Gordy and so many, many more.

Tom was born in Concord, CA, but mostly raised in Placerville, CA. His childhood was rough and troubled, but he still emerged a warm, caring, fun man.

He joined the Navy in San Diego, and moved to San Francisco after getting out. Once here, he joined the floral industry, putting his great talent to use, and eventually began his own business, The Posie Pusher.

He married his husband, Paul, on September 29, 1990 and they shared a life filled with joy, laughter and so much love. ▼

Robert James Curtis Sept. 13, 1959-Oct. 28, 1992

Robert James Curtis died Wednesday, October 28, 1992 at University Medical Center in Sacramento. He was 33.

Born in Auburn, he was raised in Roseville, and lived for several years in San Francisco before returning to Roseville four years ago. I (John G. Keck IV) was with Robbie for eight years (1980-1988). I will miss him very much and so will his friends here in San Francisco.

Mr. Curtis was a self-employed contractor. He worked in construction and specialized in the renovation of Victorian-era homes.

Growing up in Roseville, he was active in Boy Scouts, and he had a keen interest in the ancient Nisenan village, built by ancestors of Roseville's indigenous Maidu tribe. He was a graduate of Oakmont High School and Sierra College.

He is survived by his parents, Myron and Doris Curtis of Roseville; and brothers and sisters, Myron and Judy Curtis of Paradise, David Curtis of Chico, Paul and Denise Curtis of Roseville, Teresa and Rick Davis of Cameron Park, Noreen Curtis Griffith of Roseville, Peggy and Curtis Statler of Forest Hill and Michael Murphy of Sacramento.

Wayne Widman

July 3, 1948-Nov. 28, 1992

Wayne Widman, 44, died in Walnut Creek after a long hard fought battle with AIDS.

He was a native of Illinois and had lived in the Bay area for the last 15 years. He was a real estate agent in the Contra Costa area and had been associated with Kaiser Foundation Hospitals.

Wayne had been a combat medic with the 101st Airborne in the Vietnam War and received the Bronze Star for valor at Hamburger Hill.

Wayne loved nature. He enjoyed hiking and bicycling and especially loved the beaches of Hawaii.

He is survived by his mother in Wisconsin, a sister and brother in Illinois, his long-time friend Diane Bonner and his many friends in the South of Market community and throughout the Bay Area.

At his request, no services were held. Memorials may be made to the AIDS Project of Contra Costa County, 2326 Boulevard Circle, Walnut Creek, CA 94595. ▼

Bob Hanneman

Bennie Hall would like to inform all of Bob Hanneman's many friends that he passed away December 19, after a brief hospitalization for lung cancer. A small memorial service will be held Wednesday, December 23, at 2:30 p.m., Chapel of the Chimes, 4499 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland. Donation to S.F. AIDS Foundation, P.O. Box 426182, SF, 94142 are suggested in lieu of flowers. ▼

Timothy Raymond Murphy Oct. 16, 1949-July 29, 1992

On a foggy Wednesday morning this summer, our friend and brother walked into the light. A clear path illuminated his soul's departure. Per Timothy's request, no funeral or memorial services were conducted. His ashes were scattered in the Golden Gate by the Neptune Society of Santa Rosa.

He frowned on the idea of heroes, and left this world hoping we could help each other without leaders. How can one describe the value and worth of this man's life in this limited media space and be fair to his principles? This question along with my own denial has delayed this announcement. With the urging and re-assurance of Dick White, I will describe Timothy's essence, and value.

God-looking, leather clad, fiercely independent, honest, creative, nurturing, intuitive, playful and moody this loving soul to those fortunate to have met and loved, did make a difference, did his own thing and will be forever in our hearts and minds. Having lived in Santa Cruz, Guerneville, Berkeley, and San Francisco for the last twenty years, Timothy achieved notoriety and artistic enlightenment at his famed Langton Street studio in 1985. Other successful enterprises included his own carpentry business, movie productions, photography, music recordings, home ownership, leather, motorcycles, Kitty-cats and most important of all, a determination to treat everyone fairly and in an adult fashion. Timothy had a remarkable talent to inject joy and appreciation for life. Let us keep the spirit lit! ▼

Gordon 'Ric' Wilson

Nov. 16, 1949-Nov. 15, 1992

One day short of his birthday, Ric died of AIDS complications. This was a man of many facets. A collector of all manner of things, he could take a discarded hula hoop and combine it with a handmade quilt, making a work of art. He loved to dance. This tower of a man could be seen at socials or even the Raw Hide moon like silk in the wind. He was a master with the needle and thread, creating fancies of his imagination which he would wear for parties, dances, events and holidays. Ric's sharp wit gave us his brilliant phone messages and political satire. A few words cannot sum up a life that has touched so many. The consolation is that each of us who knew Ric will forever carry a piece of him in our hearts. He will always be a candle that winks at us in our darkest hours.

A memorial for Ric will be held at UCSF Faculty & Alumni Club, 745 Parknassus, S.F., January 9, 1993 at 1 p.m. Donations may be made in Ric's name to the Gay Men's Spiritual Retreat scholarship fund, call Michael at (510) 534-7307 for more information. ▼

Obituary Policy

Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, Bay Area Reporter has been forced to change its obituary policy.

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

Write name of person on back of photo. If you include a stamped envelope to have the photo returned, please write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m. ▼



Dennis Lynn Kerschner Jan. 15, 1944 - Nov. 21, 1992

Dennis made his transition quietly, peacefully, and free of pain, supported by Nick Charles, his significant other of 7½ years, and three loving friends on Saturday, November 21, at 4:40 p.m. in a place of great compassion, sensitivity, caring and love, the Coming Home Hospice.

Dennis, also known to some as "Dr. Baby," made many friends in the 25 years he resided in San Francisco. His "live-in-the-moment" philosophy will be remembered by all who knew him. His inimitable flair for "throwing a party," sparing no expense and always keeping his friends' good time in mind, made you want to be on the guest list! His motto, "do it all the way or don't do it at all," was evident in all that Dennis set out to do, especially where his friends were concerned.

He was born and raised in Marion, Indiana. Not only did he have the loving support of his parents, Louise and Arthur, but Dennis also was blessed with the enriching influence of his Aunt Viv and grandmother. His family's ability to create the proper atmosphere for his brothers and him encouraged Dennis to imagine and achieve his dreams and goals, the most important of which were obtaining a college education and seeing the world. Why else would a boy from Indiana travel to Tonga?

His chosen occupation, medical technology, which he loved so well, kept him at one position for 17 years as the clinical laboratory manager at Gladman Memorial Hospital in Oakland. Upon leaving there in 1985, he, Nick, and his beloved cocker spaniel "Brandy" moved to the Russian River area in Guerneville. There he found a more challenging position in the laboratory of Healdsburg General Hospital. But that was not enough to keep him from the city he loved so well, and they all moved back to San Francisco in 1988, again assuming a position as laboratory manager at "Allertec," an allergy testing lab. Then in 1990 he took a job at San Francisco General's blood bank, which he found to be the most exciting and challenging facet of his laboratory career.

In August of that same year he was diagnosed with lymphoma. He and Nick then began their treks to the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, for a 6-month course of chemotherapy, flying back and forth 3 times a month for treatment. In May of 1992 he made his final visit and was told the lymphoma was in complete remission.

However, by mid-September, other HIV-related diseases took over, and growing weaker and more confused, he was admitted to Kaiser hospital in San Francisco. He was diagnosed with diffuse brain atrophy, dementia, and other AIDS-related conditions. After 2 months, giving the diseases a run for their money, Dennis finally suffered respiratory arrest. With Nick holding his hand, Dennis bravely and profoundly departed from this life to achieve his "next level of awareness."

Dennis is survived by his lover Nick Charles; Aunt Viv and Uncle Bill Dehoff; Aunt Jo Beuttes; his brothers Billy, Joe and Dave Kerschner and their families.

Donations should be made in Dennis' name to Coming Home Hospice, 1390 Market St., #510, SF, CA 94102. Friends are warmly invited to attend a memorial celebration in Dennis' honor on January 10, 1993, from noon until 6 at their home in San Francisco.

Honey, I love you now and always. ▼

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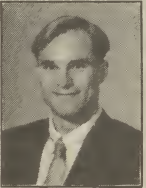


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National News

Holy Shit — Two More Priests in Trouble

United Press International

CHICAGO — The defense began presenting its case December 10 on behalf of a priest accused of fondling a teenage girl at a west suburban parish.

The Reverend Robert Mayer, 53, had been under orders at the time he was priest at St. Odilo Church not to be alone with anyone under the age of 21, Bishop Raymond Goedert testified December 9.

The girl, now 15, tearfully testified that Mayer in January 1991 — without warning — put his hand down her blouse and put his hand under her skirt after calling her into the rectory and sitting with her on a couch.

The teen said she told no one what happened for ten months.

"I was afraid and I was embarrassed [about] what everybody would think. They would blame me," the teen said.

The defense questioned the credibility of the girl's testimony and objected to her

"possible hysterics." Defense attorney Patrick Tuitt denied the priest, who is accused of aggravated criminal sexual abuse, fondled the teen.

But prosecutors during the trial before Cook County Judge Thomas Durkin called witnesses who testified that Mayer talked at length in January 1991 about the girl's attractiveness during a sex education class for boys who attended the Berwyn school.

"He used every street term there is about sex, every disgusting term," Salvador Gamino, 15, of Berwyn testified. "He said she should come in and demonstrate."

Other male youths who were in the sex education class testified the priest said he wanted to have sex with the girl.

The teen testified she waited to report the incident but made sure she never again was alone with Mayer, who Goedert testified was removed from the post in mid-1991 because Mayer violated orders against being alone with anyone under 21 and a

complaint by an adult male that Mayer had made sexual advances to him.

Separately on December 9, the family of a man who killed himself in 1990 at the age of 36 filed suit in Will County Circuit Court against a Kankakee priest, the Reverend Myles White.

The family accused White of sexually molesting the man when he was 16 and his anguish over the incident caused him to take his life, attorney Joseph Kleist said.

The suit seeks \$5 million in damages from White and the Joliet Archdiocese, which oversees St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church in Hinsdale where White was assigned at the time.

Charges are pending against White in Marshall County, Indiana, after a videotape that showed the priest having sex with a teenage boy was purchased at a flea market. White was suspended from his post at St. Martin of Tours Church in Kankakee after the charges were filed in July in Indiana. ▽

Local Group Formed To Help Victims of Cleric Sexual Abuse

by Dennis Conkin

A support group to help individuals who have been sexually abused by clergy is forming through Project Eden, an East Bay substance abuse counseling and social services agency.

The group, supervised by a licensed mental health professional, will be the second support group of its kind in the country, according to Terri Hall, a counseling intern at the agency who will co-facilitate the group.

"Many boys who were abused by clergy as boys are now men. We don't know who's out there but we're putting out as many flyers as we can," Hall told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The group will be for both men and women who were abused by clergy, Hall added.

Sexual and other forms of abuse by clergy are particularly insidious, Hall said, because clients suffer spiritual as well as sexual violation — and because many forms of counseling and support fail to address such issues.

"All the work that's been done has been on a theoretical approach and no one has really done anything. There is [only] one other support group in the country," she said.

The hour-and-a-half weekly

group will help clients who have suffered cleric sexual abuse to work through the issues of guilt, isolation, and shame, Hall said, plus any other emotional problems

that may result from the abuse.

For more information about the group, contact Terrie or Jeff at Project Eden at 510-887-0566. ▽

Another Man Nearly Killed by Catholicism

United Press International

LONDON — A man who survived a ten-story suicide jump and was recovering in a hospital was nearly killed from the effects of having tainted holy water sprinkled over him by a relative, a medical journal reported December 18.

Doctors had been mystified as to why the 19-year-old patient's condition deteriorated suddenly following a "steady" recovery from his serious multiple injuries.

The young man jumped from a highrise in February 1989, fracturing his skull, ribs, pelvis, and a leg. In the initial operation after being admitted to the Birmingham hospital he needed 53 units of blood and was put on a ventilator, the *British Medical Journal* reported.

In subsequent weeks doctors were impressed with the patient's progress until "suddenly the patient's condition deteriorated," the report said.

The doctors were extremely concerned as the patient became "confused and feverish" and suffered shortness of breath for no apparent reason. There were no other patients on the ward and the pa-

tient could have died from the overwhelming infection he had contracted, the doctors said.

Ian Greaves, a senior house officer, and Keith Porter, a consultant trauma and orthopedic surgeon at the hospital, had no idea where the source of the infection came from until the patient's aunt was seen liberally sprinkling the bed-bound young man with holy water.

The aunt was immediately stopped and the water taken for analysis that revealed it was carrying the rogue bacteria.

After the situation was explained to the aunt and the sprinklings stopped, the patient quickly recovered and was released three months after his fall.

"We know of no other case of life-threatening infection transmitted this way," Greaves and Porter wrote in the journal.

But they added: "We suspect that such transmission is, in fact, more common than realized and may represent a significant source of infection in critically ill patients that will not be noticed unless specifically sought." ▽

News You Can Use!
B.A.R.

El Cajon Sues Scouts

by Karen Ocamb

Chuck Merino, an El Cajon police officer, filed suit against the Boy Scouts of America on December 14 seeking to be reinstated in his position as an Explorer Scout adviser. Last September Merino, 37, was told that BSA's San Diego chapter did not want "a homosexual role model," according to a report in the Los Angeles Times.

Merino had organized the post with the Scouts in 1988 through the El Cajon Police Department which he had joined in 1977. As a result of Merino's suspension, the San Diego police chief has severed the department's 25-year-old ties with the Scouts. The lawsuit is expected to force the issue of whether the



Scouts can continue to use their Balboa Park headquarters for which they pay the city \$1-a-year. They are allowed the use of other city fa-

cilities for free.

Merino is seeking not only reinstatement, but to have the Scout's anti-gay policy declared unlawful. ▼

Boy Scouts Eagerly Await New Head

United Press International

IRVING, Texas — Jere B. Ratcliffe of Naperville, Illinois, was named to head the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America on December 18.

Ratcliffe, the current regional director for the Central Region in suburban Chicago, will assume control of the 5.5-million-member organization after the retirement of Chief Scout Executive Ben H. Love on February 1.

Ratcliffe will be responsible for providing staff leadership and direction to nearly 4,000 Scouting professionals in 50 states, Puerto Rico and in U.S. territories around the world.

Search Committee Chairman John J. Clendenin said, "Jere brings a wide range of Scouting experience to the office of the chief scout executive. He will build upon our past successes and help ensure that the youth and families we serve will continue to receive the best that Scouting has to offer."

Ratcliffe, a Distinguished Eagle Scout, has worked in Scouting for 28 years. There is no news yet on whether he intends to continue to implement the Scouts' controversial policies of excluding boys who are gay or atheistic — or who have parents who are gay, lesbian, or atheistic — from the organization. ▼

Dept. of Corrections To Study Vacaville

United Press International

SACRAMENTO — The California Department of Corrections formed a committee December 18 to study the problem of AIDS in state prisons after four inmates died of the disease.

The committee of AIDS advocates and experts will meet regularly with the Corrections Department to discuss issues related to the

treatment of HIV-positive inmates.

The deaths of four inmates infected with the AIDS virus sparked an investigation by the Assembly Public Safety Committee into prison health care. A report issued by the committee last month concluded that inadequate care for 355 HIV-positive inmates at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville could have been a factor in the deaths. ▼

KKKKids Offer Money To Beat Up Minorities

United Press International

LIBERTYVILLE, Ill. — Three Libertyville High School students are back at school after serving out a ten-day suspension for launching a Ku Klux Klan group at the school, officials said.

District No. 128 Superintendent Donald Gossett said the group, headed by three 17-year-old seniors, published four issues of a handwritten, photocopied newsletter championing white supremacy and containing racial slurs.

Titled "KKK," the newsletter referred to the group's ringleaders as "grand dragon" and "imperial wizard" and contained a photograph of a robed Klansman cut from a magazine.

"These were apparently written by the students, photocopied and handed out to members of the group," Gossett said. "It had been going on for several weeks until a pair of students brought one forward and said they thought it was inappropriate."

The group was broken up before members collected any dues earmarked as rewards to students who assaulted blacks and others, he said.

The students were suspended for ten days December 3. About 30 other students whose names appeared on a membership list will attend required seminars on race relations with their parents hosted by the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League.

Libertyville Police Chief Daniel McCormick said police do not plan to file criminal charges, though the students could have faced misdemeanor hate crime charges.

"We believe the students really didn't know what they were getting involved in and the ramifications of their actions," Gossett said.

About 11 percent of the 2,185 students at Libertyville High are minorities: 1.2 percent are black, 2.7 percent are Hispanic, 7.3 percent are Asian and 0.4 percent are Native American. ▼

Clinical Trials for HIV Infection

ViRx, a private clinical research center, is recruiting for the following clinical trials:

For HIV Infection:

- Phase III study of AZT and ddC vs. AZT, ddC, and alpha-Interferon in people with T-cells between 300-500. AZT use less than 3 months required. Additional study site in Marin County.
- Phase I/II study of Zalcitabine plus ddI vs. ddI plus placebo for people with T-cells between 200-500.
- Phase I study of curdlan sulfate, a new investigational drug with anti-HIV activity in the test tube, in persons with T-cells below 500. Participation involves 24-hour hospital stay.
- Phase I study of THF-gamma 2 (thymic humoral factor) in persons with T-cell counts between 100-500 and currently taking AZT. Study duration 12 weeks; visits every one to two weeks.

For Malaria Infection:

- Phase I/II clinical trial of TLC G-65, a liposomal encapsulation of the widely used antibiotic gentamicin. Must have AIDS or T-cells less than 100.

For Herpes Infection:

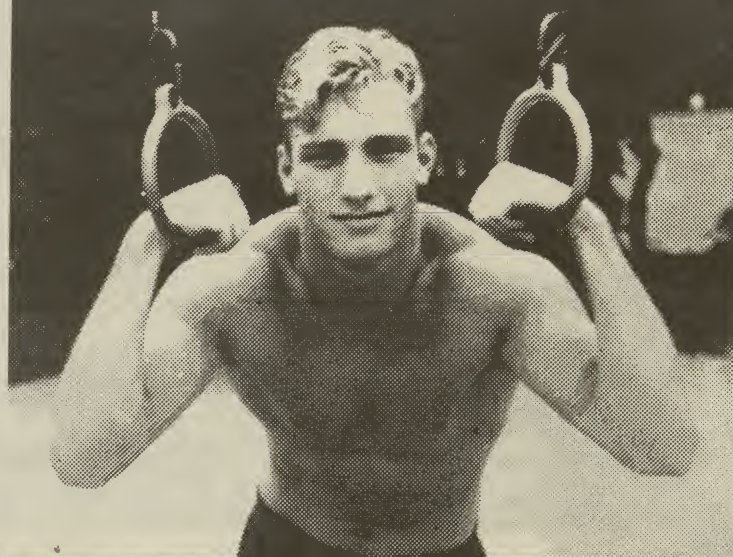
- 256U87 vs. acyclovir for the suppression of ano-genital herpes in HIV-positive participants.

For enrollment information, please call ViRx at 415-474-2233. Minorities and women are encouraged to participate.

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The Supreme Court Does it Again

by Greg Henderson

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Supreme Court has made it less appealing for lawyers to become involved in civil rights cases where their client's chances of winning significant monetary damages are slim.

By a 5-4 vote on December 14, the court said the "prevailing party" in a civil rights challenge is no longer automatically entitled to collect attorneys' fees.

In the past, a plaintiff who won even nominal damages in a lawsuit and was declared the "prevailing party" was routinely entitled to be reimbursed for the legal cost of bringing suit, even if compensatory damages amounted to very little.

In a decision written by Justice Clarence Thomas, the court determined that while a plaintiff who wins nominal damages is technically the "prevailing party," some damages can be so small as to allow a judge to award no attorneys' fees.

The ruling leaves more discretion in the hands of judges, and makes it likely that attorneys will be reluctant to take cases where they could be stuck paying their own bills, said Carter Phillips, an attorney with the American Bar Association.

"Unless you think you've got a very good chance of winning a case, you're likely to walk away from it," said Phillips. "It will deter a fair number of lawyers from taking these kind of cases."

But Richard Samp, an attorney with the Washington Legal Foundation, called the ruling "perhaps a defeat for everybody who thinks that taxpayers ought to be subsidizing lawyers, but a victory for everybody else."

Samp also said the decision allows civil rights victors who are suing to establish a principle, rather than just collect money, to still get attorney's fees when they are declared the prevailing party.

The court's ruling was in response to a case plaintiff Joseph Farrar fought through the courts since 1975, when Texas officials briefly closed down his home for delinquent teens during an investigation. He sued the officials for \$17 million.

Farrar died in 1983, but the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals eventually said Farrar's estate was to be awarded nominal damages not to exceed \$1 because his civil

rights had been violated.

But a judge — based on the finding that even \$1 allowed Farrar to be considered the prevailing party — awarded Farrar's estate \$280,000 in attorney's fees.

The 5th Circuit then reversed that decision, saying the nominal damages were too small for Farrar to be considered the legal victor.

The high court disagreed in principle, saying a plaintiff who wins nominal damages is a "prevailing party." But it then said a judge may award no attorney's fees.

"In some circumstances, even a plaintiff who formally 'prevails'... should receive no attorney's fees at all," wrote Thomas. "A plaintiff who seeks compensatory damages but receives no more than nominal damages is often such a prevailing party."

Thomas's opinion was joined by Chief Justice William Rehnquist and justices Antonin Scalia and Anthony Kennedy. Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote a concurring opinion that gave the majority its fifth vote.

Justice Byron White authored a dissent from the bulk of the ruling, joined by justices Harry Blackmun, John Paul Stevens and David Souter.

White said the proper ruling would be to declare Farrar the prevailing party, and then send the case back to lower court for a decision on how much in attorney's fees should be awarded.

Hate crimes decision

The same day, the Supreme Court agreed to decide if states can impose heavier penalties on those whose crimes are motivated by a victim's race, religion, sexual orientation or similar status.

Six months after striking down a St. Paul, Minnesota, "hate crimes" law as violating the First Amendment by hampering free speech, the court will decide the legality of using a criminal's motivation to enhance his sentence.

In recent years many states have adopted such sentence enhancement provisions, meant to protect victims of racial attacks, gay bashing, religious discrimination and, in some cases, assaults on women.

In the St. Paul case the court unanimously struck down a law that made it a crime to say or do certain things meant to arouse "anger, alarm or resentment in others on the basis of race,

color, creed, religion or gender."

It found the city could not use the law to prosecute a white teenager for burning a cross in the yard of a black family.

The court noted the teenager could have been prosecuted for such crimes as trespassing or, if warranted, assault.

If St. Paul had convicted the teenager under such a generalized criminal statute, but then given him a stiffer penalty based on the racial motivation involved, it would parallel the issue the court agreed to decide December 14.

In recent years 46 states have adopted some form of hate crime legislation, with more than half of those laws based on enhancing the sentences for existing crimes.

The court will review a sentence enhancement law in Wisconsin, which was struck down by the state's highest courts.

The Wisconsin law allows for a longer maximum sentence for crimes where the victim is intentionally selected "because of the race, religion, color, disability, sexual orientation, national origin or ancestry."

The law allows for a maximum increase of five years in prison for a felony committed with such motivation.

Wisconsin said the St. Paul law involved a "hate speech" statute aimed at speech and thought itself, rather than a "hate crime" statute aimed at a particular type of conduct.

The Wisconsin law was applied after an October 7, 1989, assault by a group of blacks on a 14-year-old white male.

A group of about ten blacks was outside an apartment complex in Kenosha, Wisconsin, after discussing a scene in the movie *Mississippi Burning* where a white man beat a young black who was praying.

Todd Mitchell, 19 at the time, asked the group: "Do you feel hyped up to move on some white people?"

The white teenager appeared a short time later, walking toward the apartment complex.

Mitchell said: "You all want to fuck somebody up? There goes a white boy; go get him."

The group then beat the boy, who was in a coma for four days and suffered extensive injuries.

Mitchell was convicted of felony aggravated battery,

Shortage reported of drug for PWAs

ATLANTA (UPI) — The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has reported a shortage of a drug used to treat an infection that strikes AIDS patients.

From December 6 through December 12, the agency received telephone calls from pharmacies nationwide requesting sulfadiazine-trisulfapyrimidine, or triple sulfa, the CDC said.

The drug is commonly used with another drug called pyrimethamine to treat AIDS patients stricken by an infection of the central nervous system known as toxoplasmosis, the CDC said.

The only firm licensed to make the drug ceased operation in October, the CDC said.

In response, the Food and Drug Administration is contacting drug companies to try to restore supplies quickly, the CDC said.

Until a commercial source becomes available, doctors should consider using a drug called clindamycin with pyrimethamine to treat acute toxoplasmosis, the CDC said.

In the meantime, the CDC said December 17, it had obtained a small supply of triple sulfa that will be made available to people with acute disease who cannot tolerate clindamycin. ▽

Garamendi Predicts 1993 Health Insurance Breakthrough

WASHINGTON (UPI) — California Insurance Commissioner John Garamendi said November 13 that an emerging consensus among old foes will help produce major reform in 1993 to cure the nation's health care crisis.

In a speech to the Health Insurance Association of America, Garamendi said long-time enemies in the nation's health care wars are starting to agree there should be a universal right to health care with the costs shared by businesses and individuals. He predicted that the ultimate solution would emphasize managed competition as the best way to offer universal access, global budgeting to force an assessment of spending, and a simplification of insurance systems and aggressive cost containment measures to root out inefficiency.

"Those who have long supported guaranteed health care as a right have argued for government regulation and the mandates deemed necessary to secure that right," Garamendi said. "On the other side, there are those who have balked at government regulation and government-imposed mandates, preferring voluntary and market-oriented reforms as the best means of controlling costs and gradually expanding access."

"But these ... battle lines have begun to soften and a new consensus is emerging that is based largely on employing the means most associated with conservatives — market competition — to achieve the ends associated with social liberals — universal access," he said. "The new consensus may best be described as the use of private means to social ends."

Garamendi urged the group to heed President-elect Clinton's call for a new national spirit of community. "It is a call to us as policymakers to create change for the better, and to produce a more unified and a healthier America," he said. ▽

and the state then alleged and proved at a separate trial that he was eligible for the sentence enhancement for racial motivation.

Mitchell would have been eligible for a maximum two-year prison sentence under felony aggravated battery. With the sentence enhancement, however, his maximum possible sentence was increased to seven years.

A judge sentenced Mitchell to four years in prison, leading to Mitchell's successful appeal.

Wisconsin officials equate enhancing a sentence for "hate crimes" with the common practice of a state imposing longer sentences for

crimes committed against children.

"To date, criminal jurisprudence has assumed that motive is a proper sentencing consideration and, therefore, sentencing judges have routinely considered motive when imposing sentences," wrote Wisconsin.

"For example, a robber certainly has a constitutional right to think greedy thoughts, but a judge may still reasonably determine that a robber motivated by a desire to feed his family is less culpable than a robber motivated by a desire to wear gold jewelry."

A ruling in the case is expected by summer. ▽

Activists

(Continued from page 1)

called for the integration of AIDS into the NIH's reauthorization bill, still pending before Congress; broad-based, clear goals for the Office of AIDS Research; increased research into AIDS issues affecting women and people of color; a better balance between social, biomedical and behavioral research at NIH; and about \$300 million more for the agency's AIDS research projects.

For prevention activities, the activists took a hard line against right-wing congressmembers and organizations which they charged have ef-

fectively stunted most AIDS education activities funded by the federal government.

They called on the president-elect to help them fight right-wing efforts to censor AIDS prevention efforts by fully funding much-needed community-based AIDS education and condom distribution programs and sexual behavior research and then backing them with the force of his administration.

On the AIDS care crisis, beyond asking for full funding for the Ryan White bill, the lobbyists asked for help in reauthorizing the three-year-old bill in the next Congress and many more far reaching health care reforms.

The representatives from

the various groups also laid out a series of requirements for Clinton's "AIDS czar" position. They requested a candidate with a knowledge and sensitivity of the myriad issues around AIDS and no known record of insensitivity to gays and lesbians, women and minorities. They added, however, that they are not demanding that the candidate necessarily be gay, HIV-positive or a person of color.

Pressed for names by reporters, the activists further insisted that they are not lobbying for any specific "personalities" for the office.

"We laid out this agenda today in our meeting with [Westmoreland]," said Bill Bailey, lobbyist for the American Psychological Association.

"As a gay American living with AIDS, I can say I believe we were heard. But the real proof that our message was heard will only come in the doing."

One of the greatest causes for hope among the AIDS groups was the Clinton transition team representative himself.

For the better part of the last decade, Westmoreland has been a congressional staffer for Representative Henry Waxman (D-California), chairman of the pivotal House Health and Environment Subcommittee. As such, Westmoreland has been arguably the most powerful House staffer on AIDS issues, and one of the more valuable allies to the AIDS community

on the Hill.

Westmoreland made it clear in the meeting that he is not seeking a position with the Clinton administration and will be returning to Waxman's staff once Congress convenes again in January. ▽

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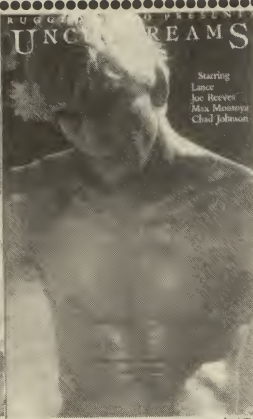
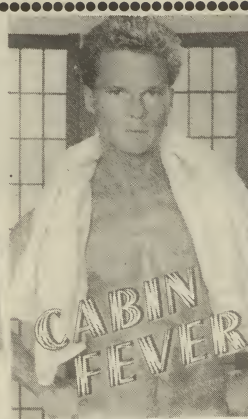
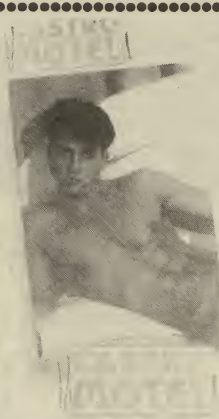
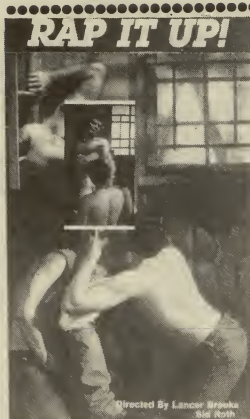
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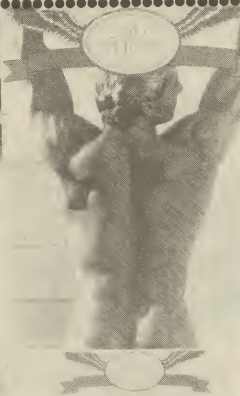
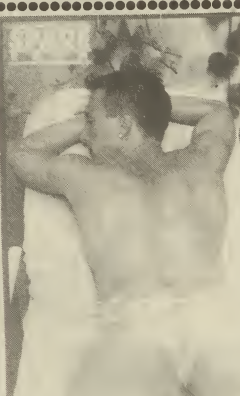
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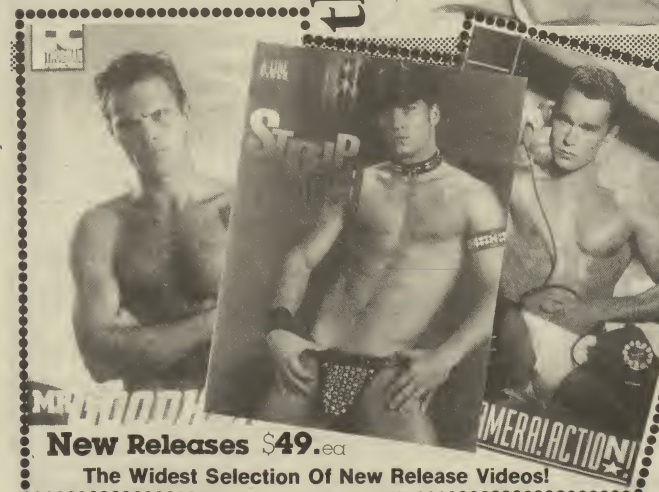
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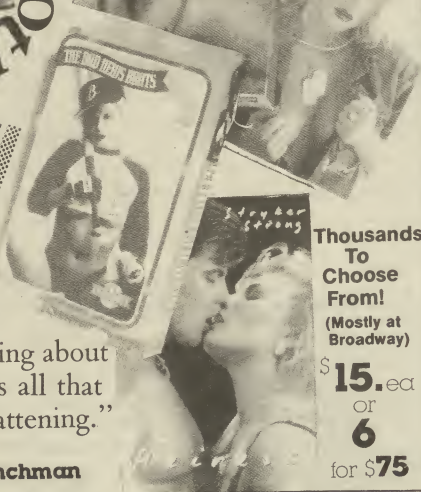
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VOL. XXII NO. 52 DECEMBER 23, 1992

The Big Picture

by Chad Jones

It's a big world out there, and some men like it that way. Call them large, call them chubby, call them fat, the fact is, large gay men have always had their admirers.

In the parlance of their subculture, these lovers of largesse are known as chasers, and they are—for the most part—skinny. We have come to know them all as the

chubby-chaser set, one of the many segments of the gay community.

When Charlie Brown organized the Girth and Mirth Club of San Francisco in 1976, little did he know he was beginning the chubby movement. At the core of this movement is the need for chubbies and chasers to feel good about themselves and their desires, and to be accepted on their own terms by society.

The Girth and Mirth phenomenon has led to the formation of such organizations worldwide. Other chubby and chaser groups have sprung up such as the now-defunct San Francisco Roundabouts and the still-functioning Golden Gate Connection. There's even an organization to organize the organizations called Affiliated Big Men's Clubs (ABC). There's a national ABC convergence every year (this past year it was held in San Francisco) and previously untapped areas such as adult films (*The Big Bear Orgy Party*), erotic publications (*Bulk Male*), and phone sex lines have begun to cater to chubbies and their chasers.

Berkeley Beginnings

Charlie Brown, who was a young chaser with a fat lover



Bill Weaver (left), Mr. Chubby of 1991 with Ray Tilton, Mr. S.F. Leather 1990 (Photo: Judi Parks)

Chubbies have a hard time coming to terms with being gay and being fat, but chasers also have to deal with the stigma of being attracted to fat men.

in the mid '70s, didn't know what he was getting into when he placed an ad in the Berkeley Barb to start a new group called Girth and Mirth. Brown considers the creation

of this club, the mother of nearly 30 clubs around the world, to be the greatest thing he will ever do. "Mind you," he says with a laugh, "I'm not a particularly motivated per-

son, but it makes me feel good. Obviously I've benefited from it because I like the big boys. It was something that was ready to blossom.

(Continued on page 44)



"Out" in the hall — Scott Thompson as Buddy Cole

'The Kids in the Hall' Hits the Mainstream

Queen of Comedy

by Alan Frutkin

If you think Blaine and Antoine—those flamboyant gay "critics" on *In Living Color*—are the only queens on TV, then you haven't seen Buddy Cole. If you find the "Men On" sketches homophobic, turn them off, and then turn to Comedy Central (Viacom Channel 39, weeknights at 9:30 p.m.) and start watching *The Kids in the Hall*. You'll be surprised at how much air time real gay humor gets there.

By real gay humor, I simply mean comedy written and performed by television's only "out" gay comedian. His name is Scott Thompson, and he is one-fifth of the Canadian comedy troupe known as The Kids in the Hall. The other four members—Mark McKinney, Kevin McDonald, Dave Foley, and Bruce McCulloch—began working together in 1984. Thompson, who originally was just a fan of the Kids and, at the time, an unemployed actor, joined the group in 1985.

Discovered by *Saturday Night Live* producer Lorne Michaels, the Kids' hit series

on Canadian television has been airing on HBO and the Comedy Central cable channels for the last three years. Although they're not yet a household name here, the Kids' outrageous brand of humor has earned them a devoted following in the States and has recently led to a late-night network time slot, Fridays, on CBS. Since September, CBS

has been airing repeats of the Kids' shows (in San Francisco at 2:35 a.m.—technically, Saturday mornings), and beginning in January, it will start airing new episodes.

Overtly Gay Humor

What's surprising—and exhilarating—about *The Kids in the Hall's* increasing popularity is that so much of the show's humor is overtly gay. In fact, the show is suffused with a gay sensibility that is found nowhere else on television. Along with the obvious references and innuendoes regarding gays that you can find on any comedy show, a great number of gay characters actually people the Kids' sketches—hustlers, gay vampires, clothing designers, students, office workers.

However, the show's most famous gay character is Thompson's limp-wristed Buddy Cole, a Toronto nightclub owner who, from the vantage point of his bar stool, observes and skewers the world around him. Thompson has taken some heat from gay critics for perpetuating the stereotype of an effeminate gay man in his depiction of

(Continued on page 38)

"I just didn't know how I could be a comedian without talking honestly about my life, and that's being a gay person."
—Scott Thompson

OutThere

The Annals of Queerdom

by Robert Julian and Orland Outland

And we thought it was a joke. Three weeks ago, Out-There ran a Michael Jackson quote, where he opined, "I can't think of a better way to spread the message of world peace than by working with the NFL and being part of Super Bowl XXVII." Out-There suggested the Nobel Peace Prize committee should be calling any day. Now comes the recent *Chronicle* headline, "Nobel Urged For Michael." The accompanying Reuters story describes how hundreds of Jacksonites "marched through central Bucharest shrieking with joy and asking for the Nobel Peace Prize to be awarded to their idol!" Scares us.

Vox Populi, Vox Dei — that's Latin for "you asked for it." Some of you have requested more real gossip, as opposed to the gossip we cull from publications that cost a lot more than this one. Well, seeing as how this isn't New York or Los Angeles, we don't have immediate access to Woody Allen, Mel Gibson, or even Shannen Doherty. We can't write about where "we just got back from" because we lack the time or money to blow this pop stand. But there is one fast-growing, trend-setting entertainment industry right here in San Francisco — so this is it, the complete dish on ... the sex clubs.

Club Sin is now open for business, and it's a combination sex club/dance club — more bang for your buck. If nothing else, this means you can blur your vision with something better than Pabst



M. Jackson — peacenik

on tap. We'd tell you where it is, but then the *Examiner* would just write a scandalous expose and it would be closed down. If you know where **Trouble** is, well, it's in the same place. It opens at midnight (sooo New York) on Fridays, and the price is "Ten Dollars Per Sinner."

Yes, it's true — they did open a sex club directly over that Castro Street bar. The

neighbors should be ecstatic; this will undoubtedly mean fewer people having sex in the parking lot a few doors down. Wonder if the San Francisco Health Department is aware of the change in usage from residential to raunchy?

But enough about sex. The first time his column didn't run, he blamed it on a production error. The next time, he said he turned it in too late. The third time, he wisely stopped explaining. Truth is, his newspaper thought a nightclub columnist with his "own" nightclub was a conflict of interest so blatant it just wouldn't do. He says it's "his" club, but that terminology is looser than his lips. One of the *real* owners explains, "It's not his club; we just pay him to be a fixture." If a certain superstar isn't careful she may soon become unproductive.



Here's looking at you kid

Gus Bean, former owner of Colossus makes his comeback New Year's Eve with *Cyclops*. *Fluffy Boy* wrote the eulogy for Colossus in the latest issue of *HOMOTURE*, where he expressed no

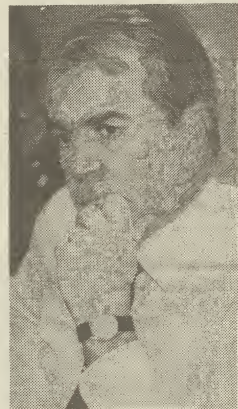


Having a ball at the beach, Rodney of *Girlfriend!* fame

(Photo: Mark Huckabay)

surprise at Gus' retirement. "After you buy a home, what more can you aspire to; what is there, after all, beyond property?" Well, making the payments on it comes to mind.

Fluffy's new project is the positioned-to-cash-in-on-the-trend-of-the-'90s magazine *Girlfriend!*, which promises to be of drag queens, by drag queens, and for drag queens. The first issue, due out in January, features an interview with former presidential candidate **Joan Jett Black**, who talks about attending the Democratic Convention and meeting **Paul Tsongas**. "He was sweet, if a little terrified," Joan reports. Tsongas evidently bought a couple of "JJB for Prez" buttons for his daughters. Conflict of Interest Statement: Orland Outland is an (unpaid) contributor to the *Fluffy Boy Brand Far Flung Media Empire, Inc.*



P. Tsongas — dragophile

Premiere for January has a list of "Ten Things You'll Never Hear An Actor Say," including "this dressing room is too big" and "don't send a limo — I like to drive." Left off was the one thing that would have headed up our list: "Yes, you are right; I am a homosexual." Must have been a production error.

But there's no mistaking the early indicators on *Gus Van Sant's Even Cowgirls Get the Blues*. Although the film won't be released until August of '93, FineLine Features is sending out early publicity stills. **John Hurt**, who played a queer cop in the hideously awful 1982 **Ryan O'Neal** flick *Partners*, asays the role of the Countess in *Cowgirls*. One picture is worth a thousand words, as they say — and now you have it. ▼



Drag queens unite — John Hurt and Angie Dickinson from the upcoming *Even Cowgirls Get the Blues*

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Who Are We Now?

by Jim Emerson

Sure, lesbians eat more fish than gay men but not much more. And men spend more time cruising than women, but a typical gay guy out with a date for a night on the town prefers, if given the choice, the taste of fish to beef. What makes gays and lesbians so different and yet so much

Research identifies gay men as the wealthiest demographic group in America.

alike, you may well wonder?

Consumer marketing research provides some answers. Marketers and advertisers are finally beginning to understand that many gays have more bucks to burn than heterosexuals. Nationally, 12.5 million gay men earn \$377 billion annually. The national annual income of the U.S.'s six million lesbians is \$137 billion.

In Chicago, the nation's first gay marketing research firm, Overlooked Opinions, and the well-respected Simmonds Market Research Bureau have been busily studying gays. They're compiling facts and figures for companies looking to sell more goods and services to us. Everything from fish to computers.

Research identifies gay men as the wealthiest demographic group in America. Most lesbians are believed to earn more than heterosexual women, but this hasn't yet been documented. Consumer marketing research on gays focuses more on men. Lesbians are often lumped together with men, which means less women-specific information is available. The fact that on the average a

woman earn 70 cents for every dollar a man earns explains why marketers are more interested in men.

San Francisco gay households earn an average of \$47,900 annually, according to the latest 1992 research from Overlooked Opinions. (Households are defined as two persons.) Gays make up approximately one-third of San Francisco's 750,000 population. Non-gay households here earn \$38,800 annually.

Gay male households actually have much higher incomes, but the figures for gays include both lesbian and gay male households, which lowers the overall gay average. Within San Francisco's gay community, there are also twice as many men as women.

No Dishpan Hands

Gays who earn more money naturally have more spending money (or "disposable income" as marketers call it). For instance, nationally, Overlooked Opinions determined that gay men eat out 10.2 times every month. Lesbians typically eat out 9.7 times every month. About 36 percent of the men eat out more than 10 times every month. Lesbians buy more take-out food every month, 66 percent vs. 62 percent for gay men.

More food for thought from the research conducted by Overlooked Opinions and the Simmonds Market Research Bureau has gays liking fish more than beef whether dining out or eating at home. Given the choice between a New York Strip, prime rib, filet mignon, and various kinds of seafood, more gay men and women will choose fish. Research shows heterosexuals are more interested in chicken.

Apparently, gays eat out as a way to avoid washing dishes, or else we're too busy traveling. Overlooked Opinions research reveals not only that "one out of every four gay men and lesbian women have washed dishes fewer than five times in the past 30 days" but also that gays, all



Lesbians and Gays congregate for the Pride '92 celebration. Will we be the new target of advertising opportunism?

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

18.5 million of us, take 162 million trips annually.

About 12.5 percent of gay men and 8.5 percent of lesbians have taken a cruise within the last three years. Men travel on vacation an average of two times each year and 7.8 times (wink-wink) on business. Lesbians on the average take 1.5 pleasure trips and five business trips annually.

Among gays nationally, San Francisco is the most popular vacation destination, followed by Provincetown, Key West, and Fire Island. The Russian River comes in 15th just behind Europe in general (14th) and Greece (13th) in particular.

The typical gay man and the typical lesbian are likely to be more successful, more highly educated, and earning more money working in a professional job than the average heterosexual. About 45 percent of gay men and lesbians received job promotions within the last three years. So it's little wonder why they're studying us. ▼

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Homofactuals

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Three Worst Places for Gays to Live:	Jackson, Ridgel, and Tougaloo, Mississippi suffer from the lowest percentage of gay population.	
Race of Gay Men:	84.3% White (non-Hispanic); 9.5% Hispanic; 4% African American; 1.2% Asian/Pacific Islander; and 1% Native American.	
Race of Lesbian Women:	78.9% White (non-Hispanic); 11.7% Hispanic; 5.8% African American; 2% Asian/Pacific Islander; and 1.6% Native American.	
U.S. Gay Population:	12.5 million men	6 million women
Gays in Monogamous Relationships:	58.1% men	81.2% women
Average Gay Age:	37 men	35 women
Gay Republicans:	13.1% men	10.9% women
Gays Registered to Vote:	92.9% men	90% women
Gays in Management Positions:	13.4% men	10.9% women
Gays in Education, Finance, Healthcare, and Law:	29.2% men	27% women
Gays in Liberal Arts Professions:	4.5% men	3.1% women
Gay Entrepreneurs:	3.6% men	3% women
Gays Who Own Their Homes:	47.7% men	43.1% women
Number of Monthly Trips to the Movies:	3.33 men	2.73 women

☆ Sources: Overlooked Opinions, Rivendell Marketing and Simmonds Market Research Bureau.

Watch Out

An Interview With Alison Bechdel

by Rupert Kinnard

As a die-hard fan of the nationally syndicated comic strip "Dykes to Watch Out For," I found myself in total ecstasy when its creator, Alison Bechdel, breezed into Modern Times Bookstore recently with an innovative and revealing slide presentation of her work. She treated her admirers to some of her earliest drawings, sketches and doodlings, accompanied by her wry, witty commentary.

Collections of Ms. Bechdel's work and her yearly calendars are constant best-sellers around the country. She and cartoonist Howard Cruise are the patron saints of many of the newer wave of lesbian and gay cartoonists. I was honored to have a chance to sit with her and discuss her work.

★ ★ ★

Rupert Kinnard: What inspired you to present your work as a slide show?

Alison Bechdel: When I came out with my first book, I wanted to go around like other authors and do book signings. They do a reading and sign books for people, but it's really dorky to read cartoons out loud. It just doesn't work. I figured I needed something visual. I knew that Howard Cruise had done a slide show, so actually that's how I first met him. I wrote him a letter and asked him

how he did it. He gave me some advice and I put this slide show together.

You mentioned Howard Cruise in your presentation. Have you been influenced by his work?

Oh yeah. When I first got out of college and moved to New York, and was out in the world, I got hold of *Gay Comics*, and I thought, "What a great thing." I mean, there was my role model. Here were these people who were already doing this. I have the greatest respect for Howard. I don't know that I would necessarily be doing this if I hadn't seen other people doing queer cartoons. So I feel as if he sort of broke the ground.

When you first started drawing, you only drew men. I related to that because when I first started drawing cartoons, I found that even though I'm African American there was this whole period where I was only drawing white people.

Really?

Yes. I was wondering if you had any thoughts on how society influences the work of younger artists.

I think that's all that influences little kids. It's better now, but when we were kids — God! White boys were the standard and everyone else had to make these huge leaps of identity to connect with



I think my characters are sexy, but sexy in a holistic kind of way.

them. That's what was going on for me — all the heroes in stories were boys; anyone who did anything was a boy.

You also commented that you feel the media presents women as "fetishes," and many of the depictions of supposedly sexy women are degrading. Have you gotten a sense from your fans around the country that they find your women characters sexy? If so, how are your depictions different from the media's?

Hmmmm. I don't know. Every once in a while I get

letters from people who have crushes on Mo, but I don't know how sexy people find them. I think my characters are sexy, but sexy in a holistic kind of way. Sexy not only because of the way they look, but because of who they are, what they believe in and what they do.

Once I did this slide show and a woman asked me if I ever thought of doing stuff like a lesbian Tom of Finland. (Laughter) And I was thinking I can't even imagine what a lesbian version of Tom of Finland would look like. That's not the direction I'd go in. I do like to draw erotic stories and I like drawing the characters having sex and stuff. I'd like to do it ... I don't know how else to say it ... in a holistic kind of way.

How would you compare your strip to 'Cathy,' which is probably the most popular strip in the country written and drawn by a woman.

Just the fact that I'm not doing mainstream stuff gives me so much more freedom. I can talk about so much more than "Cathy" could ever talk about — or more than she would even want to talk about. I can do much longer strips. Mainstream people get four panels and that's it.

I'm actually more interested in what you feel your philosophical differences might be. I think of your strip being everything that "Cathy" is not.

Oh, definitely! I hate "Cathy." Cathy sucks. I think the reason she's syndicated so widely is that she completely reinforces every horrible stereotype about women. It's safe. You don't see Nicole Hollander stuff in every daily paper across the country because it's got some substance to it. "Cathy" is a total sell-out.

I assume there are many women across the country who experience "Cathy" as a feminist strip.

Well, that's the dangerous part of it. It's kind of co-opting feminism. She masquerades as a feminist, and every once in a while she will do some remotely political strip, like about how secretaries should be valued more. That's about as political as she gets. It's safe feminism.

Do you feel it's at all important for you to keep up with what's going on in that comic strip?

Well, I love to hate her, you know.

That's the way I feel about "Garfield."

Yeah, me too.

During your slide show you expressed concern about how you portray women of color and how you haven't dealt with issues of racism in your strip. How do you feel you could handle things differently?

I think the big thing about being a white person, writing about the lives of women of color, is what is my motivation? I was talking to a friend of mine, a black woman who is a writer. She does a writing workshop about representing people of different races in writing. And she asks people about their motivation.

As white women, why did they put a black character in their work? Is it just kneejerk, political correctness, or did they really care about that woman's life? Do they have black friends? Do they know what this woman's life would be like?

To tell you the truth, when I started my strip I think it was kind of a kneejerk, PC reaction. It was like, "Oh, of course Mo is going to have to have a black friend." When I look back I feel really ashamed to look at how I really treated Clarice and Toni as Mo's ethnic sidekicks. But over the years, as I've gotten to know them, they've become much more than that to me.

I'm always learning about things I need to do. Like why is it that this black woman, who runs a bookstore, only hires white women? I have to think, "Wow, that's ridiculous. That wouldn't happen." I'd like to show people interacting more within the African-American community. I'm totally working on my own racism, using the strip. It's kind of embarrassing sometimes, to see the mistakes that I make.

I enjoyed hearing you admit that you are constantly discovering things about your characters. It's great to hear you say that you don't know everything about them. Your approach reflects the reality of human relationships. There seems to be a lot that surprises you about your characters.

When I talk to people about my characters, they end up telling me the wildest things. They give me these incredible insights into them that I don't have on my own. A lot of what happens in the strip is stuff that I get from other people.

Do you ever think that their perceptions are wrong?

Sometimes I feel that they're off-base about certain things, but other times they're

(Continued on next page)



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Queen Mother And Consort

by Sando Counts

New Year's Eve marks the opening of a month-long run of Sunday night performances at the Blue Muse, starring Jose Sarria and Tommi Rose in the musical revue *Together Again for the Very First Time*. Both sing and have comic stage personas, and their show will include selections that range from Broadway toe-tappers to La Scala arias.

For our conversation, I caught Tommi and Jose at Jose's house, where the latter was hauling out and sorting drag for the show, and recovering from a birthday whose unmentionable number recalls a specific sexual activity.

Jose calls himself a historical (and hysterical) landmark. Some years back he dubbed himself "The Widow Norton," became "Empress I," and

launched what evolved into the court system.

Big Fanny

Jose was a fixture at San Francisco's infamous '50s club, the Black Cat. He says he first got noticed there when he was "a little Mexican singing on the table tops." As for his stage persona, he quips "I've got a strong mouth. There's a lot of Fanny Brice in me."

Called the "Nightingale of Montgomery Street" by Herb Caen, Jose became famous for his comic versions of grand operas such as *Carmen*, *Tosca* and *La Boheme*. "There's no pantomime involved, I actually sing them." He promises that in the current show, "We'll bring out all the old warhorses, even *La Habanera*."

His performing partner, singer and emcee Tommi Rose, tells me "Jose is famous



"Girlfriend, it's true! Ginger and Sweet Lips are even older than you." Tommi Rose (left) drops a dime on the legendary Jose Sarria.

for his death scenes. In *Carmen*, it goes on for seven minutes.

"Seven minutes?" I ask.

He dies, and dies, and dies, and dies," intones Tommi. Jose explains that, "depending on the encores, I may die three or four times."

Tommi Rose, for his part, is happy to give up the emcee role he usually plays at clubs like Finocchio's and La Cage aux Folles in Los Angeles and concentrate more on his singing in this show. "Jose and I challenge each other," says Rose. "Jose is a riot to

Jose explains that, "depending on the encores, I may die three or four times."

work with and we've come up with some great gimmicks that should be really fun for the audience."

For their New Year's opening, Tommi says "We want the atmosphere to be like an intimate cocktail party, and the Blue Muse is perfect for that. It'll be a nice option for those who don't want to be out on the streets." Jose chimes in, promising "the show will be full of surprises, there will be party favors, and ... the champagne will flow!"

Together Again
The Blue Muse
Sundays thru Jan. 31
(except Jan. 17)
626-7505

Bechdel

(Continued from previous page)

right on. I was sort of toying with the idea of making Sparrow bisexual, or making her have to deal with feeling attracted to a man or something. Some fan wrote to me and gave me all these very compelling reasons why I shouldn't do that, and why maybe some other character should be the bisexual. I love that people know them.

Don't you think that what's happening is one of the most basic functions of art, where you create your work, put it out there and others are free to interpret its meaning based on what they bring to it?

Exactly.

You mentioned there is a type of drawing style you admire that's reflected in the work of one of my favorite artists, Kris Kovic. I found your sketches had a style similar to Kris' work.

Yeah. It's a different kind of drawing. It's much freer. It comes from some place in me that I filter out when I draw the comic strip. The strip is much more deliberate. "Filtered" is the word that I think of. I wish that I could tap into that more incredible, kind of insane place that Kris' work



Alison Bechdel, lesbian cartoonist

comes from. Her work is like id and mine is ego.

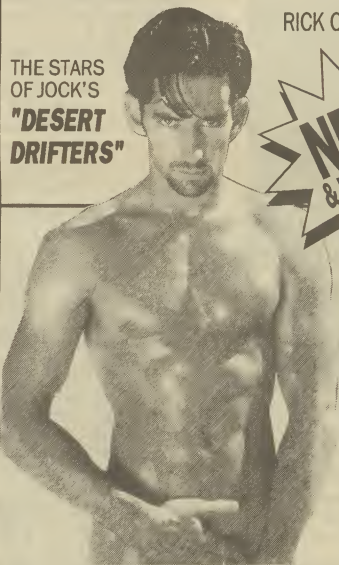
I once had someone ask me if could I create comics as pure humor, with no political overtones. I responded by saying the daily newspapers are full of comics that basically consist of sight gags and clever one-liners. I am driven to do a bit more within space granted to me. Is there any one thing you feel responsible to do within each comic strip you create?

I feel a certain responsibility just to be funny because I think that keeps people hooked into it. But that's so limiting. It's hard to just be funny. For me it's much easier to do more serious stuff, but then try to give it some funny little twist. I could write essays or do lectures, but I feel no one would listen unless they found something funny about it.

I feel as if I never do serious stuff, like I mentioned I never touch the issue of racism. No one ever gets raped or queer bashed in my strip. I don't avoid all serious subjects, but I do avoid the real serious ones. I keep this middle ground, the same as a lot of the really good TV sitcoms. They'll do a really serious episode every once in a while that's about a more deeply emotional issue or more controversial. Then they'll go back to silliness. I think it's important to do that. People don't want to watch some big, searching documentary for half an hour. They want to be entertained. ▼

Cathy sucks. I think the reason she's syndicated so widely is that she completely reinforces every horrible stereotype about women.

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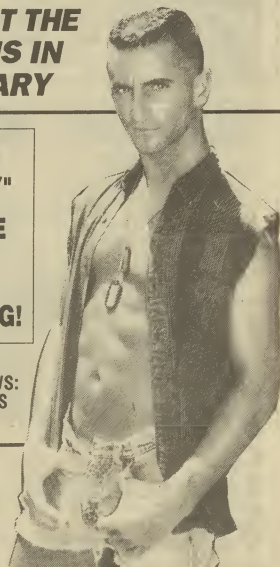
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Happy Holidays
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Television

Comedy

(Continued from page 33)

Buddy Cole, though if that image is to be portrayed, I'd much rather have Scott Thompson doing it than the two "homeys" who play Blaine and Antoine.

Besides, Buddy Cole is only one of many characters that Thompson plays on the show — straight and gay. And unlike actors such as Jim Carrey, who always seems to play the bumbling white man on *In Living Color*, Thompson is never pigeonholed as the Kids' token gay. In fact, it is often the Kids' straight actors who play the gay characters.

Whatever criticism the gay community slings at Thompson or at *The Kids in the Hall*, it should be noted that the Kids' humor derives less from a cartoon portrayal of gay men than it does from the inherent humor of the situations they have written. Even their female imperson-

ations, of which there are many, are infused with a certain depth of character that is unique within the context of traditional female impersonations on television. The Kids take their female characters a step beyond the obvious gag of seeing a man dressed as a woman.

Although the Kids' humor doesn't yet rival the brilliance of, say, Monty Python, the show's daring material is reason enough to watch and support this ensemble. At the center of all this comic "chutzpah" is Scott Thompson. Not since *Saturday Night Live*'s Terry Sweeney — you may recall his searing impersonation of Nancy Reagan — has there been an openly gay comic on television. But the impact that Thompson has had on the show's overall content far outweighs anything that TV has seen before. As the Kids stand poised for a breakthrough to America's mainstream, I spoke via phone with Thompson, who was in between rehearsals at the Kids' Toronto studios.



Alan Frutkin: Before you joined *The Kids in the Hall*, what were you doing?

Scott Thompson: I was a very bad actor who basically drifted through every bad production in Toronto until I found these boys. And when I found them, I realized a way to do comedy, because I had always wanted to do comedy ... but I just didn't know how I could be a comedian without talking honestly about my life, and that's being a gay person. And the Kids were so brilliant — and so out there and ready to do anything — that I thought they would be able to accept me. It took a little bit of work, but ultimately it was worth it.

What kind of conversations did you have with the other members about wanting to do gay comedy?

A lot of them, you wouldn't really call conversations. You'd call them fights. Screaming fights. I was very defensive. You know, a lot of gay people have a chip, and I was very angry ... but they're pretty special.

We're a group of five very disparate, very intense personalities. We've gotten more and more comfortable with each other. I think we're very physically comfortable now with each other. I mean, I can put my hands down Kevin's [McDonald] pants, and we're just two men standing there, one gay, one straight, and we're comfortable with each other as actors, and I think that's really special.

When I go out and meet other comedians in the busi-

The Kids in the Hall is suffused with a gay sensibility that is found nowhere else on television.

ness — people who are really making it — I sense a nervousness about me, and I think a nervousness toward the whole troupe — and I'm shocked. The acceptance that I have here ... the dignity that we give each other is only here, and if I was anywhere else, I'd have to begin the fight all over again.

Do you see any differences between the shows you're taping for CBS now and the shows you've done in the past?

The only differences that I see are the organic differences that happen in any artistic endeavor as it moves along. I don't see any differences because we're on network television.

Has CBS mentioned anything about the gay sketches?

I've personally spoken to them and told them that I wanted to know what their stand was on this. They promised me they were going to treat this like anything else in the show. They've been really good to us so far. They're letting us get away with quite a bit. Although personally, I don't think homosexuality is

All the kids (left to right) — Dave Foley, Mark McKinney, Scott Thompson, Bruce McCulloch, and Kevin McDonald

by its nature controversial. You can do things with homosexual themes that are controversial, but ... homo-sex can be extremely vanilla.

With the political climate changing here, how is comedy changing with it?

I don't think it's going to get soft and toothless, but comics won't be able to attack people for their skin color or their sexual orientation or their accent, unless they have something really important to say about it, unless they're coming from a very interesting point of view. This kind of blanket attacking of people by making fun of certain qualities isn't going to stand anymore.

I think people are starting to realize that homosexuals aren't freaks. People are starting to realize that all over the place, and the media makes more of a to-do of it than the general public really feels. I think people are coming to grips with homophobia, and that is one of the things that is going to define this decade.

What advice would you give to young gay comics who are trying to break through to the mainstream?

Tell the truth. Don't couch your reality to make people feel better about themselves, to make people feel more comfortable. Because by softening and diluting the reality of gay life, we're only letting people into a lie. And personally I'm not into telling people lies. ▼

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Crime Queen Cleared

The Trunk Murderess: Winnie Ruth Judd
by Jana Bommersbach; Simon & Schuster, \$20

by Deborah Peifer

The *Trunk Murderess* is a fascinating true-crime story that is superbly written. Jana Bommersbach gives us the horrifying crime, and the more terrifying cover-up, with all the suspense of a finely crafted mystery novel. A lot of mystery writers would do well to read *The Trunk Murderess* and learn from it. This is one of the most interesting non-fiction books I have read this year.

On October 16, 1931, two women, Hedvig Samuelson and Anne LeRoi, who lived together and were probably lesbians, were murdered in Phoenix, Arizona. The mur-

ders were discovered three days later when the police opened a pair of suspicious-looking trunks at Union Station in Los Angeles. The trunks attracted attention because of a sickening odor that emanated from them and because the liquid dripping from one corner appeared to be blood. When the first trunk was opened, the police found the dead body of Anne LeRoi. The second trunk contained body parts but, frighteningly, not enough parts to make a whole body.

Within days, the police had identified the woman who checked the trunks in Phoenix and tried to claim

them in Los Angeles as Winnie Ruth Judd. Judd was arrested after the greatest human hunt in the history of the West, tried for the murder of LeRoi, convicted because of the evidence of dismemberment of the other victim (a separate trial was planned for Samuelson's murder), and sentenced to hang in the hopes that the threat of death would convince her to testify. When it became clear that she would not speak, she was declared insane a week before her execution date and carted off to spend the rest of her life in an asylum.

Over the next 50 years, Judd's name was regularly in the news. Lots of people, including members of the trial jury and the sheriff who handled the original investigation, were convinced that she was guilty, at most, of shoot-

(Continued on next page)

Spicy, Raunchy, Tender

Erotique Noire/Black Erotica
edited by Miriam DeCosta-Willis, Reginald Martin and Roseann P. Bell; Doubleday/Anchor, \$27.50 (hard), \$14 (paper)

by Karl Bruce Knapper

African-American academicians Miriam DeCosta-Willis, Reginald Martin and the late Roseann P. Bell conceived *Erotique Noire* somewhere on Tennessee's Route 40, between catfish farms and country ham truck stops going south toward Chattanooga. On the radio were a "bunch of Wild Women Blues Singers" getting down and dirty with their erotic lyrics. Snapping their fingers as they drove down the highway, the three educators shared stories of their individual erotic pasts.

Soon after this, they decided that a collection of black erotica was long overdue and started work on this serious, intellectually grounded anthology. Their goal was not only to celebrate black sexuality, but to legitimize a previously unrecognized art form.

Erotique Noire reveals the spicy, sometimes raunchy and often touching erotic expression of black literature. It challenges the taboos surrounding the literary presentation of black sexuality. The anthology reflects the erotic sensibilities of African and African, Latin, and Caribbean-American men and women, gay and straight.

The book embraces a host of literary genres, including short stories, excerpts from novels, poetry, essays and scholarly articles. Shange sets the tone and the terms for the collection in "Fore/Play," when she asserts, "To be a 'good' people, to be 'respectable' and 'worthy citizens,' we've had to combat absurd phantasmagoric stereotypes about our sexuality, our lusts and loves, to the extent that we disavow our own sensuality to each other. ... Here in these stories and poems we are not myths or stereotypes, art forms or sex objects."

Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals Included

The editors organize *Erotique Noire* into 10 chapters. Each section begins with

commentary on literary form, sensibility and political/social context. Works by prominent writers of the African Diaspora appear with those of lesser-known talents.

The anthology features the work of many lesbian/gay/bisexual or gay-positive writers, among them Audre Lorde, SDiane Bogus, Jewelle Gomez, Essex Hemphill, R. Bruce Nugent, Gloria Naylor, Ann Allen Shockley, Alice Walker and Ntozake Shange.

Scholarly articles inspire serious critical discussion and offer an academic/theoretical counterpoint to the steamy imagery of the haiku, folk tales and letters included. Sandra Y. Govan's essay "Forbidden Fruits and Unholy Lusts: Illicit Sex in Black American Literature" examines the literary treatment by African-American writers of sexual practices long considered taboo. Charles Blockson's "African-American Erotica and Other Curiosities: The Blacker the Berry, the Sweeter the Juice..." traces the literary history of black erotica in books written by both blacks and whites.

But Is It Hot?

Erotique Noire may have an academic foundation, but the bottom line with erotica is, "Is it hot?" The answer here is a resounding yes. Whether it's SDiane Bogus talking about the joy of masturbation in "Making Whoopee"; M. Nourbese Philip telling us about the gratification inherent in a "ramrod, big big bamboo, pole, driving shaft" in "Commitment to Hardness"; Jewelle Gomez describing a woman pushing inside another and feeling "the dams burst" in "Piece of Time"; or Essex Hemphill remembering a trick in the park ("You stood beneath a tree/ guarding moonlight ... jerking your dick slowly") in Movement III of "The Tomb of Sorrow," there is something here to arouse lustful thought in everybody.

The works in the anthology make the connection so often lost between the sacred

and the secular, the spiritual and the erotic. The sexual dynamic inherent in the religious experiences of speaking in tongues, shouting, dancing and getting happy has long been evident in the black church. This celebration of the undeniable relationship between the physical, intellectual and spiritual aspects that combine to make up a whole and healthy person has strong roots in African culture.

Many of the writers use sexual experience as a metaphor for the inexpressible transcendence of our deepest spiritual feelings. Audre Lorde in "The Uses of the Erotic: the Erotic as Power" sheds light on the ability of the erotic to empower us in ways that inform and illuminate our actions and unleash creative energies that intensify and sensitize our experiences.

Poets like Kalamu Yu Salaam in "Haiku No. 79" show us the metaphysical power of the erotic:

*i enter your church
you receive my offerings
our screaming choirs merge*

So, too, does Gloria T. Hull in "Saint Chant":

*Flow with me —
or hold us crowning under—
chanting like the saint you are*



Rhythm and music also appear as sexual metaphors, with Lorenzo Thomas in the "Sounds of Joy":

*My sperm bang their heads
on the wall
Of their subway like commuters
Going mad with the current events*

The contributors to *Erotique Noire* attempt to over-

ride the Eurocentric concepts of binary opposites — good/bad, nice/naughty, pleasure/pain — to show us the complexity of sex and sexual feelings. With works that range from the lyrical to the lascivious, from the prurient to the provocative, they force us to begin charting new directions in our erotic adventuring. ▼

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(Continued from previous page)

ing in self-defense and that there had to be at least one other accomplice. Judd had been framed, it was argued, as part of a massive cover-up to protect various Phoenix luminaries, and she deserved a new trial.

And then, of course, there was Judd's tendency to escape from custody on a fairly regular basis, seven times in fact over a period of 31 years. Indicative of the change in the popular perception of Judd's guilt, the news coverage of the escapes changed from screaming banner headlines and calls for bloodhounds to the almost offhand "Winnie's Gone Again" after her 1962 escape.

Bommersbach paints an extraordinarily detailed and completely fascinating picture

of '30s Phoenix — the society, the politics, and especially what it took for a woman to survive during the Great Depression. Her re-creation of the crime, the stunningly biased reportage, and the most unfair trial imaginable are all first-rate. Using the skills of an investigative reporter, emphasis on investigative, Bommersbach weaves details into a coherent, horrifying whole.

But Bommersbach offers more than a review of the facts; she discovers startling new evidence regarding that fateful night in 1931 (I won't reveal the ending). I know that this is a cliché, but I could not put the book down. *The Trunk Murderess* is powerful stuff, an indictment of political corruption and of the abuse of power — and a remarkable document of the times. ▼

What Virgin?

Born of a Woman
by John Shelby Spong; HarperCollins, \$18

by Tim Farrell

Welcome home for Christmas. Time for carols, chestnuts roasting on an open fire, and of course, church. Mom, Pop, and Sis know you live in San Francisco; they may even know you're gay. But now you're back in the Heartland, and on Christmas Eve the whole gang piles in the car to go hear Father Mulroney's midnight mass for baby Jesus and the Virgin Mother. You have to go. So you sit quietly though the mass and try not to listen as the Christian Church methodically attacks your personality, labels you a sinner, and urges you to repent.

Fortunately, today's Christian Church has many voices, ranging from Bible-thumping arch-fundamentalists to New Age liberals, so of course, Father Mulroney's little Christmas sermon is far from the last word on Truth. One of the more liberal, scholarly voices belongs to Episcopal Bishop John Shelby Spong, perhaps America's most controversial bishop. In his new book, *Born of a Woman: A Bishop Rethinks the Birth of Jesus*, Spong focuses on the role of church and Scripture in the oppression of women. He wrote this book, he says, for "those who left the church

rather than sacrifice their intellect, and for those who stay in the church out of habit or hope, but at the price of turning off their minds." The author's earlier works (two of which are of particular interest to gays and lesbians: *Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism* and *Living in Sin? A Bishop Rethinks Human Sexuality*) were written in a similar vein.

The key objects of Spong's present analysis are Mary and the birth narratives of Matthew and Luke which, "far more than is generally realized, assisted in the development of the ecclesiastical stereotype of the ideal woman against which all women came to be judged." Spong argues that, "the Virgin figure has been used to repress women by defining them in the name of a God called Father, to be less human than males, to be the source of a sexual desire thought to be evil."

As many Christians have noted (especially in the recent century), there exists a fair amount of Scriptural ambiguity where the Virgin Birth is concerned. The Apostle Paul never mentions this "miracle"; nor does Mark, the earliest of the four Gospels. Aside from the singular, rather nebulous phrase, "and the Word became Flesh," John, the fourth Gospel, contains no birth nar-



rative at all. The story appears in Matthew and Luke only, and even in that case the two accounts frequently disagree. The more you read Matthew and Luke (which have their basis in Mark's Gospel), the more apparent it becomes that the birth legends were mere embellish-

Bishop Spong's main emphasis is on how the infancy narratives and the myth of the Virgin Mary have been used by the Church to elicit a negative, destructive view of women.

is a contradiction in terms. If that was to be the feminine ideal, accepted and saluted by church and the world alike, then in one stroke every other woman was and is rendered inadequate, incomplete, incompetent."

Bishop Spong's main emphasis is on how the infancy narratives and the myth of the Virgin Mary have been used by the Church to elicit a negative, destructive view of women. "How different it might have been," he speculates, "if Matthew and Luke had followed the lead of Paul and Mark and told the Christ story without reference to a virgin."

Virgin Destruction

The author concludes that Christianity must do away with the virgin image if it is to survive into the next century. Inevitably, Spong predicts, a feminine side of God will arise to take Mary's place. "When that occurs, the church of Jesus Christ will be more whole, more inclusive, and more reflective of the reality for which the word God is a symbol."

Spong's analysis is amply researched and reasonable, making this an important book for thoughtful gay and lesbian Christians who wish to explore their faith, particularly during the Christmas celebration. Feminists of the more radical variety are apt to find it frustrating, however, should they compare it with the sweeping intensity of books like Mary Daly's *Beyond God the Father*. At most, this is feminist-friendly Christianity. Spong is not in the business of constructing whole new Christian paradigms, although his hope for "a feminine side of God" is certainly a step in that direction. But remember, he said "feminine side of God" — not "Goddess." In any case, be sure to mention Spong's conclusions to Father Mulroney over the cherry punch after midnight mass. If he argues back, quote the third chapter of II Corinthians: "The letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." ▼

Violating Faith

Spong examines the origins of these embellishments, arguing that the Gospels, "far more than we have thought before, are examples of Christian midrash." Midrash, for those unfamiliar with Jewish tradition, is the method by which rabbis search through sacred scripture, looking for hidden meanings and clues to truth. "There was nothing objective about the Gospel tradition," Spong argues. "These were not biographies. They were books designed to inspire faith. To force these narratives into the straitjacket of literal historicity is to violate their intention, their method, and their truth."

Spong demonstrates how a literalized Bible produced a literalized theology and a paternalistic, masculine, patriarchal world view in which women, defined in terms of the Virgin alone, were subjugated and diminished. Mary was proclaimed by an all-male hierarchy to be the perfect, ideal woman; yet, Spong points out, "A virgin mother

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Pansexual Pleasures

The Erotic Impulse: Honoring the Sensual Self
edited by David Steinberg; Tarcher/Perigee, \$13.95

by Noreen C. Barnes

David Steinberg's provocative anthology is an offering of eros-affirming works at a crucial historical moment, when private sexual activity has become, frighteningly, a public political football.

The *Erotic Impulse* includes a wide array of writings: poetry, personal stories, fiction, academic analysis. Although the writers are at different places along the erotic continuum, there is a general position against legislation of morality and an understanding of the danger of censorship.

There is also a common comprehension of the terminology employed.

Porn is that which arouses sexual desire and is the explicit description or image of sexual activity (that, if between two or more people, is consensual).

Violence and rape are different issues altogether, and although they may be a part of sexual fantasy, the distinction between the real and imagined are clear (Camille Paglia's recent waffling is not included here).

Steinberg groups the contributions thematically: erotic initiation and passage; the differences between men and women; erotic frontiers. The writings explore notions of surrender and control; perversion and taboo; transgression of cultural codes, genres of pornographic art, sex and spirituality; the nature of the sexual marketplace; and the historical heresy of erotic desire in Western culture in the context of the consciousness and liberation movements of the last several decades.

James Joyce, Gore Vidal, Henry Miller and even Robert Bly are included, as are Anais Nin, Carol Vance, and Anne Sexton.

Obstacles, Prohibitions

Jack Morin writes of the erotic excitement derived

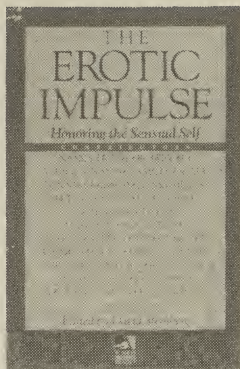
from attraction coupled (so to speak) with obstacles/barriers or prohibitions—the notion of forbidden fruit increasing erotic tension. Greta Christina tries to decide what really counts as “having sex” in the feat of keeping count of lovers, a system that requires reevaluating when she began to have sex with women and having other encounters of an erotic kind.

One piece recounts the sexual ceremonies of a street kid, the erotic initiations of adolescence that combined images of Jesus, Dracula, Elvis and Marilyn.

Michael Ventura recounts the sexual ceremonies of a street kid, the erotic initiations of adolescence that combined images of Jesus, Dracula, Elvis and Marilyn. And The Paglia herself, my favorite self-promoting, lesbian-bashing, smart-ass academic's version of Don Rickles, here in a short piece from *Sexual Personae*, provides the usual shrouded double-speak. She again persists in misreading the culture for her own purposes — unintelligibility disguised as profundity. Aren't her 15 minutes up yet?

The Wide World of Porn

Richard Goldstein's terrific essay, “Pornography and Its Discontents,” travels the wide world of porn in its multiple



manifestations. The irony of Andrea Dworkin's inclusion of detailed descriptions of porn films in her writings, Goldstein calls a “posture of rage.” This echoes Susie Bright's observation (also included in this collection) that “if it hadn't been for Kate Millett tearing apart Henry Miller's sexist prose in *Sexual Politics*, a lot of us might never have been initiated into one-handed reading.”

Goldstein looks at gay male porn films and their romanticism of coercion, at pornography that “posits a world in which sexual impulse is at the heart of all action, in which the actions that spring from desire are inevitable, in which there is no escape from role except through another role; a world without consequences.”

Ultimately, he regards the degree of “conversion as the mark of successful erotica.” But even if porn was to be banned “we would still be left with the content of our fantasies, and our fantasies would still be laced with those images of “submission and display” by which anti-porn activists define pornography.” Porn “is misogynist because the culture is misogynist, not the other way around. Sexual fantasies reflect — or, more precisely, refract — society.”

Goldstein criticizes what he calls the “New Pornology,” in which “male sexual behavior is reduced to a sequence of responses to stimuli. There is no room for individual responsibility, not to mention environmental conditioning.”

But “even if a network of censors (masquerading as commissioners of civil rights) succeeded in scrubbing iconography off all offensive sexuality, the attitudes that make such imagery effective would remain,” argues Goldstein. “Trying to destroy dangerous art is like shooting at a rainbow; you can never hit the source. No sooner do you succeed at banning one offensive work than others, more covert, arise.”

Religion and Eros

Robert T. Francoeur's “The Religious Suppression of Eros” reviews the critical differences in the Jewish and Christian attitudes toward sex, regards them as “a microcosm of the evolution of Western culture from a sex-affirming Hebraic perspective to a sex-negative Christian one, ill-at-ease with eroticism, sensuality, passion and pleasure.”

He indicts patriarchy (“fundamentalism is patriarchy gone berserk”) and its religions, which “emphasize a high God who actively punishes deviations in human behavior” and “endorse anti-sexual and anti-pleasure value systems.” This includes “negative attitudes about the physical nurturance of infants and children.”

It comes as no surprise, then, that at the core of many “traditional” and supposedly “Christian” families is the problem of child abuse. Francoeur cites studies that “indicate that parents who abuse their children were often deprived of physical affection themselves during childhood, and as adults experience extremely unsatisfying sexual relationships.”

Marty Klein, on “Erotophobia: The Cruellest Abuse of All,” notes that children are shielded from seeing adults making love, yet they can see “one hundred murders every month on TV. ... Society maintains sexual illiteracy in both youth and adults

through designated gatekeepers of sexual information.”

Sallie Tisdale points out that “a lot of violent material has sexual overtones; the mistake is assuming that anything with sex in it is primarily about sex. The tendency to assume so says something about the person making the assumption. One important point about this distinction is that one kind of material is so more readily available than the other ... slasher films and tabloids are part of the common culture. ... Scenes of nothing but mutual pleasure are the illicit ones.”

Carol A. Queen muses on the lies told by a culture that refuses “the responsibility of giving its citizens, particularly its children, even the most basic sex information, that is quick to label deviance and quick to look for someone to blame for it.”

Marco Vassi remarks on the “strong argument to be made for the notion that homosexuality should be the general sexual form of the future, with heterosexual unions forming a minority, but even if that were so, historical intransigence is unlikely to allow it.”

Can the transgressive become the transcendent? Before we embark on an erotic future, knowledge of the past and the present of the “erotic impulse” is essential, and this anthology offers a veritable buffet of philosophical, historical and political ideas for thought. Steinberg asserts that “the erotic world is one we have been taught to disrespect and fear so thoroughly that most of all have lost all but the most fragmentary ability to honor, trust, or vividly experience its many manifestations,” so that “something that should be a natural, intuitive process of personal growth, becomes in our erotophobic culture, a difficult and confusing project of emotional and spiritual archeology.”

Let the digging begin. ▼

Gay Artists Win Awards

David Cannon Dashiell, a gay PWA, has been named as the recipient of the 1993 Adeline Kent Award by the Artists Committee of the San Francisco Art Institute. The award is bestowed annually on a “talented, promising, and deserving California artist.” Dashiell was selected for his powerful work in painting, installation, performance, and sculpture. The winner receives a \$2,500 honorarium and a solo exhibition in the SFAT's Walter/McBean Gallery. Dashiell's work will be on view there June 3-July 3.

Dashiell recently co-curated the highly acclaimed “Without” exhibition at the Lab, which featured the work of several artists — Nayland Blake, Karen Finley and David Wojnarowicz among them — dealing with the losses suffered because of the AIDS pandemic. Perhaps the artist's most well-known work, *The Pantocrator's Circus*, which



Award-winning author, Aaron Shurin (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

“incorporated cosmologies of the past and references to Bosch to explore the way society equates health with morality,” was praised by *Artweek* as “one of the most intelligent, provocative, ambitious works of art to appear in the Bay Area in a long

time.” Dashiell has already won several awards, including an NEA Regional Fellowship.

In other awards news, local gay poet Aaron Shurin, associate director of the Poetry Center at San Francisco State, was named as one of the eight winners of the 1992 Gerbode Poetry Awards. The honor carries with it a grant of \$12,500 “to support the development of new writing in the coming year.” The awards were designed to help Northern California “early to mid career poets of considerable merit whose work has yet to receive national recognition.”

The author of eight books and chapbooks, Shurin's most recent publications are *A's Dream* (O Books) and *Narrativity* (Sun and Moon Press). His work has appeared in *Zyzyva*, *Grand Street*, *Sulfur*, *New American Writing*, and numerous other journals. ▼

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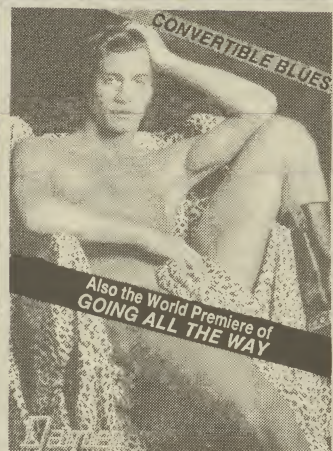
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Word Play

Mr. Benson
by John Preston; Badboy, \$5.95
Tales From the Dark Lord
by John Preston; Badboy, \$5.95

Slaves of the Empire
by Aaron Travis; Badboy, \$5.95
Sins of the Cities of the Plain
by Anonymous; Badboy, \$5.95

by Jim Provenzano

Words can be so much nastier than pictures. As a youth I got my cheesy thrills from naughty books like *Homo Farm* and *Gay Blade*. Published pre-Stonewall, and nowadays piled up on the back shelf of bookstores, these titles were actually rather graphic and racy. Now Badboy, a division of Masquerade Books, is

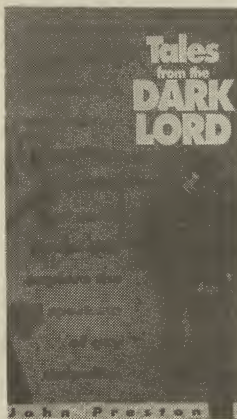
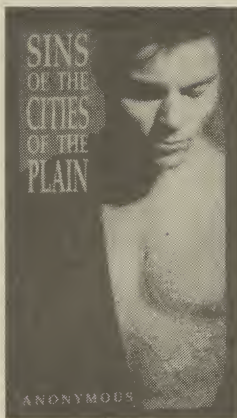
Although a few too many tales start off in bars and continue in a leather-and-alcohol stupor, others focus keenly on the aspects of power inherent in a pickup or sexual situation.

putting out an updated yet similar stream of new and revised erotic fiction paperbacks, the latest in one-handed reading.

The best of the latest crop are by John Preston, the pre-eminent erotic editor and writer, who's been writing horny fiction (and particularly strong S/M works) for years.

In *Mr. Benson*, Preston delves into a lengthy relationship between Jamie, our narrator, and the man who soon becomes his devoted master, Mr. Benson. Jamie is an admitted ne'er-do-well clone with a boring job and no future beyond his terrific body. He is tempted by the serious thrills offered by becoming a slave to the tall, dark, and brooding Benson, despite warnings from his friend Rocco.

Eventually he succumbs, enduring a miasma of light-to-heavy torture during his training session at Mr. Benson's fabulous Manhattan penthouse. Clad only in a jock-strap and occasional collar, Jamie cooks and cleans for Benson, licks his feet, and loses his useless life, exchanging it for one of utter devotion and servitude. He learns to enjoy, or at least submit to, various kinks — excruciating tit clamps, complete body shaving, whippings, butt lashings — which make for altogether pleasantly sexy stuff to



read and instructive inspiration for S/M novices and devotees.

Jamie also learns to serve Benson's buddies, a stern group of six Top Men, Benson's private masters' club. Things get messy when the boy becomes a human toilet

(liquid only), and endures an especially difficult time with a sadistic Aryan master — a Dolph Lundgren sort with a perpetual bad-hair day.

There are highlights to Preston's writing. His style is not graphic; he avoids the usual porno vocabulary and the attendant cliché terms. He's more concerned with maintaining erotic tension, not unlike the eager Jamie, whose stiff cock, unattended in his tight jock, must wait and wait for the satisfaction he finally gets. Benson gives him a gift of a three-way with a Marlboro man-type model, who turns out to be a happy bottom. His numerous "on the side" sex capers (baby talk with a Mafia mobster, brutal sadistic rack torture with a stranger) further show Jamie's growing need and love for Benson.

Midway through the novel, however, the seeds of an "intriguing" plot about missing gay men weaves its way in, and the story is gradually reduced to contrived chase scenes, kidnapped nude hunks in cages, and growling evil hunks with massive gonads. It's the stuff of *Meatmen Comics*. Certainly Preston could shape a more captivating novel that focused on the intensity of the relationship between a master and slave. That alone is drama enough.

Hot Shorts

Preston's *Tales of the Dark Lord* includes a dozen short stories, most previously published in *Advocate Men*, *Honcho*, *Drummer*, and other sex mags. Here Preston explores other options for macho sex in quick, deftly composed bursts. Although a few too many tales start off in bars and continue in a leather-and-alcohol stupor, others focus keenly on the aspects of power inherent in a pickup or sexual situation. The best of the lot, "Absolution," pits the narrator against an uptight young Marine he brings home, who confesses to being a former gay basher and repressed homo. The narrator's revenge is slow and deliciously sweet.

"Star Pump" plays with the small town gas station hunk and paid sex scenes. In "Private Kirovsky" the narrator sculpts a young military pup into the man of his dreams.

Other stories play on the top/bottom reversal tension, and many are filled with violence, cruelty, piss, and lots of sex. In most of the stories, condoms are used by the characters, and each whipping or manacled is countered with a stroke of tenderness. What separates Preston's boner fiction from others is the emotional state of his characters. Cocks, asses, and mouths get fucked, but so do a few minds.

Slaves and Masters

Limited by its setting and excessive in its grisly violence and exaggeration, Aaron Travis' *Slaves of the Empire*, set in decadent ancient Rome, follows the harrowing exploits of the gladiator/slave Marcus.

Walking directly from the arena where he impaled an opponent, Marcus' nemesis



strips his armor and tunic, and proceeds to masturbate for all the other gladiators to see. He then impales nearly every orifice of a young slave, while our hero watches, simultaneously repulsed and excited. He may be a muscle-bound professional killer, but he's got a heart.

Slaves has several intimate orgy scenes of an intensity Caligula would envy. Young twins, captured German princes, are given to Marcus for a night by the power-hungry (and gargantuanly hung) Senator Marcellus, who, with his former opponent Urius, plot Marcus' submission. Many torture scenes and gob-stopping mouth rapes later, Marcus, battered by extensive torture, succumbs to the "magnificent staff" of both Urius and Marcellus. The dramatic blood-spewing ending will satisfy even the most twisted of kinky souls.

Plain Speaking

Sins of the Cities of the Plain, written by Anonymous, follows the rent-boy adventures of a young British scallawag as he succumbs to the pleasures of rich Englishmen. He goes to formally organized parties, dines on fine wine and good food, occasionally gets gussied up in drag, and generally has a good old time of it while copping quite a few pound notes.

Written in a jaunty British style ("I soon got into possession of all he had and began to fire his blood still more by a good rapid fuck") with odd terms for sex (ejaculation is called "spending"; penises "naughty bits"; asses "bums"), this book doesn't completely work as jack-off material. Its prose is too mannered for more than mere titillation, but it is no less amusing for providing a variation on the oldest profession. ▼

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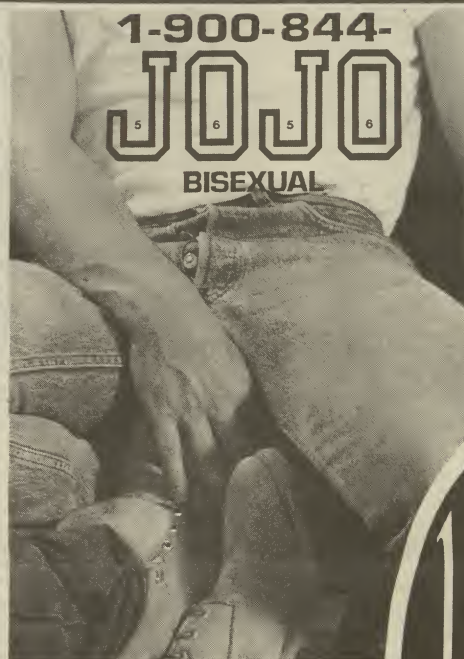
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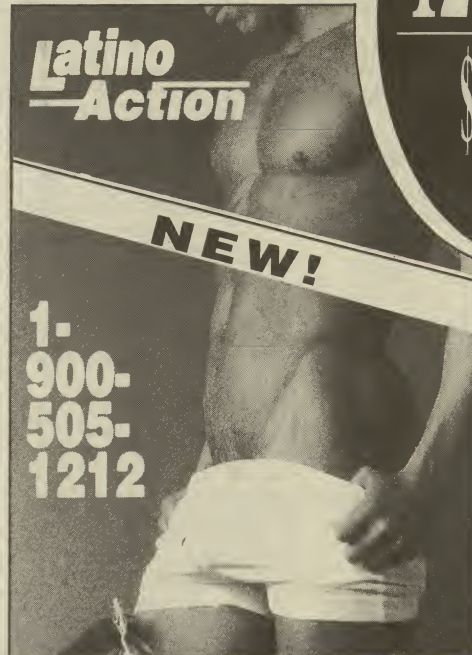
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Track

SF Track Readies for '93

by Rick Thoman

The San Francisco Track & Field Club begins the 1993 training season Tuesday night, January 5, at Kezar Stadium. The club will meet every Tuesday and Thursday night at 6 p.m. and on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. at the Kezar track near Golden Gate Park. Meets are scheduled to start in late March.

"Our practice sessions are open to everyone, regardless of age or ability," emphasized team sprinter and co-coach Frank Demby. "We have a lot of different types of runners on the team, including some who haven't run for years and some who have never competed. The club apparently has an image as a super-elite running group, but there are truly no qualifying standards to be a part of our club. We offer the same support and training skills to anyone who

wants to take part. Your goal should be to do your own personal best, not compete with other people on the team."

Demby also noted that "this is going to be a preparation year for the 1994 Gay Games, so hopefully people who intend to participate in New York will begin coming out now. The Games are only a year and half away, and anyone waiting until 1994 to get ready is not going to have the time to train properly. We hope to get our relay teams set up, uniforms ordered, and those kinds of things during the 1993 season." The club has already set up a travel-and-housing package for New York and is offering it to any other team or individual to take advantage of, with proceeds helping the SFT&FC to participate at Gay Games IV.

The 1993 competitive season will begin a month early

for the SFT&FC as they travel to Sacramento State University for the River City Spring Track Festival on March 27. Other tentative dates for the club include the Ken Carnine Relays April 24, River City Springs Relays May 8, PA/TAC Championships June 6, Seattle Gay Sports Festival July 2, and Club West Meet in Santa Barbara October 2. The club has chosen to bypass the Rocky Mountain Masters Championships in September to protest Colorado's passage of the anti-gay Amendment 2.

For more information regarding the San Francisco Track & Field Club, their training program, or SF's Gay Games IV track team, contact (415) 550-7966. For information on the New York hotel and airline package, contact 1-800-248-9061 or Kathleen at Bryan Travel (415) 731-8411. ▼



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ha! ha!
ha!

Community

Big

(Continued from page 33)

something that was going to happen even if I'd never placed that ad."

The issues of self-acceptance and the creation of a positive self image are important for Girth and Mirth member Michael Prestridge. He considers himself a "chubbette," weighing in the 200-250 lb. range. "I would never be accepted by the normal gay population," Prestridge says. "And I'm also not accepted by many chasers because I'm not fat enough. There are a lot of men who are only attracted to men 400 lbs. or more." But through his involvement in Girth and Mirth, Prestridge says he has been able to build his self-esteem.

The 28-year-old Josef Sifuentes, one of the youngest members of Girth and Mirth, says the group brought him out of his shell. Sifuentes tells sad tales of going to trendy clubs and always leaving dateless. Then he saw an ad for the Girth and Mirth Club. "After the first meeting I left with six phone numbers!" says an ebullient Sifuentes. "Imagine going somewhere where everybody likes you. It makes you feel good. You

start to look at yourself and say hey, I'm big, but I'm still okay. I still look good." Sifuentes, who used to be so shy he could hardly stand to be photographed, is now entering chubby beauty contests such as the Mr. Chubby Contest held recently at the Lone Star. "It's so different now," he says. "Nothing will hold me back."

The Chase

And what of the chasers, these mysterious men lusting after the amply built creature known as the chubby? Tony Di Genova, one of the charter members of Girth and Mirth, says there is a whole spectrum of chaser tastes. "There are fat admirers who don't go for the large ones, but go for the smaller ones, the chubbettes," Di Genova explains. "The range is from slightly overweight to very overweight, and then there are those who go for both skinny and fat."

Di Genova remembers the bathhouse days: "You're there and you cruise a chubby. He's not interested in a thin guy at all. He goes for another chubby, so you end up losing two chubbies that night."

Founder Brown says chubbies have a hard time coming to terms with being gay and being fat, but chasers also have to deal with the stigma of being attracted to fat men. "Being gay and being attracted to big men are two very difficult things to deal with growing up," Brown says. "Now, with the club, it's a great thing to be with other people who have the same taste. No one likes to feel they're alone in the universe."

Sifuentes, who falls somewhere between the chubbette and the chubby range, can see life from the chaser standpoint, and says chasers have, perhaps, a more difficult time than chubbies because they have to come out twice. "Not only are you gay, but you also like fat men, which is hardly

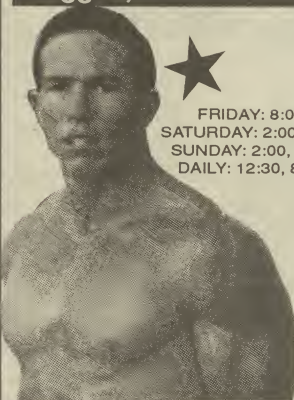
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Chasers avoid being harassed by their friends by getting a skinny boyfriend and then cheating with a chubby guy.

Community



Big, black, and beautiful — R.J. Brown at the Mr. Chubby Contest
(Photo: Judi Parks)

(Continued from previous page)

the norm," Sifuentes says. "It can be quite embarrassing or awkward to say you like fat men. People think you're weird, but it's like anything else, you come to terms with it in your own mind. Once you accept it, everything's fine. Like accepting you're gay."

Prestridge, who moved to San Francisco from Los Angeles, says in his experience, chasers avoided being harassed by their friends by getting a skinny boyfriend and cheating with a chubby guy. "Here they have this thin, gor-

geous little prima donna lover, and they're cheating on the thin lover with a fat guy."

Trouble in Paradise

Despite its name, all has not been smooth for Girth and Mirth of San Francisco. In 1989, dissatisfied with the way they believed the club was being run and mirthless about the whole situation, several Girth and Mirth board members resigned and created the Golden Gate Connection, an alternative group for chubbies and chasers. The split was not amicable, and the two groups, even though they protest this weakly, bear more than a little animosity

for each other.

Mert C. (who will not reveal his last name because he works for the federal government), one of the co-founders of the Golden Gate Connection, was president of Girth and Mirth for two years. He resigned, he says, because he wanted to be in a club that would be a service club, a club in which serious topics could be discussed. How does he feel about Girth and Mirth? "As far as we're concerned, we don't do anything with them because (Di Genova) keeps animosity going. We just ignore it. We have a club, we have a lot of fun, we just don't bother them. If he wants to have animosity that's his business. I speak to Di Genova when I see him, but then he stabs me in the back when I turn around, so I just stay away from him."

Di Genova and the other members of Girth and Mirth remain tight-lipped about their feelings for the Golden Gate Connection.

"Di Genova says the Golden Gate Connection caters to an older crowd. 'They won't even play rock music at their events. They do more sedentary things than we do.' His only other comment about the group: 'Their club has some fine members. We personally have no problem. Some of them have a problem with us.'"

The current president of the Golden Gate Connection and a former Mormon bishop, Arlen J. (also a federal employee who will not divulge his last name) reports that at a recent Golden Gate board meeting, Tony Di Genova became the ultimate 'no-no.' "We decided we're going to



Joe "Bear" Galena — winner of the 1992 Mr. Chubby Contest
(Photo: Judi Parks)

fine anybody \$5 if they mention his name. Funny, isn't it?"

Ill will and personal vendettas aside, both groups agree that the work of both clubs is to support their members and to further the chubby movement. And through the exposure of chubby men — men who are not absolutely perfect but who have self-esteem — people can feel comfortable with a little tummy roll or a less than washboard stomach.

Concluding his thoughts on being a lifelong chubby-chaser, Di Genova says it all boils down to this: chubby or not, once you fall in love with a person, the physical attributes become unimportant. "You begin to see the person there," Di Genova says. "You fall in love with the person. My first lover was chubby then lost weight. I didn't fall out of love with him. When you fall in love with a person it makes no difference what they look like." ▼

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THIS WEEK

All press releases, announcements and photos must be received at our offices by Thursday, one week prior to publication.

FRIDAY 25

Scott Capurro & Marilyn Pittman
Laugh through the holiday with two exceedingly funny comics. \$10. 8pm. Thru 12/27. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

The 5,000 Fingers of Dr. T
The trippiest piano school in Dr. Seuss land, with Hans Conreid as the deliciously malicious Dr. T, and whiny pre-pube homo Tommy Rettig. \$4.50-5.50. Thru 12/26. Call for times. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight. 668-3994.

Shabat Services
Sha'ar Zahav, Jewish lesbian/gay congregation. 8:15pm & last Sat. of each month, 10:30am. 220 Danvers. 861-6932.

SATURDAY 26

The Nutcracker
San Francisco Ballet's festive production of Tchaikovsky's classic, with a huge cast and colorful sets. \$5-100. 2pm, 8pm (7pm Sundays). Thru 1/3. War Memorial Opera House, Van Ness at Grove. 703-9400, (510) 762-BASS.



Tom Ammiano & Karen Ripley in *A Year To Dismember* (Wed.)

The Nutcracker
Oakland Ballet's version, with new choreography by Artistic Director Ronn Guidi, and herds of kids dancing around the giant growing tree. \$6-39. 2pm. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. Closes Sun. (510) 465-6400.

Christmas Miracle Play
The Mexican folk story of La Virgen Del Tepeyac, directed by Luis Valdez (*Zoot Suit*, *La Bamba*). Performed and sung in Spanish. \$12-24. 8pm, Sun. 7pm, Mats at 2pm. Thru 1/3. Cowell Theatre, Fort Mason Center (Landmark A). 392-4400.

Miss Evers' Boys
ACT's compelling, well-staged production of David Feldshuh's touching drama about the nurse who cared for black men in the infamous Tuskegee syphilis studies. An indictment of racist medical indifference with surprisingly funny and musical moments. \$12-36. 8pm. Wed. & Sat. 2pm. Sun. 3pm. Thru 1/31. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason. 749-2ACT.

The World Goes 'Round
Cheerful revue of the music of Kander & Ebb, who wrote songs for 30 musicals, including *Cabaret*, *Chicago*, *Woman of the Year*, and the films *New York, New York* and *Funny Lady*. \$12-46. Thru 1/3. Curran Theatre. 474-3800.

Bon Appetit!
Jean Stapleton performs in two witty musical monologues, one by Ruth Draper, *The Italian Lesson*, and an impersonation of Julia Child as she madly creates the perfect French chocolate dessert. \$11-36. 8pm. Thru 1/9. Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter at Mason. 749-2ACT.

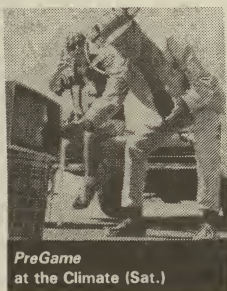
Into the Woods
Stephen Sondheim's very mature fairy tale musical about responsibility features some great songs. \$12-22. Call for times. Thru 12/27. Theatreworks, 1305 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto. 329-2623.



Bobby McFerrin at Grace Cathedral

Hamza El Din & Coleman Barks
Celebrate the spirit of Nubian and Arabic sounds in a special musical performance of 13th-century mystic Rumi, played on the oud and the tar, read and translated by Barks. \$15-17. 8:15pm Sun. at 2:30pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez at 23rd. 647-2272.

The Weber Family Christmas
Oddball play of dysfunctional family holiday antics. \$14-22. 8pm. Thru 12/27. Life on the Water, Bldg. B, Fort Mason Center. 776-8999.



PreGame at the Climate (Sat.)

Desert Music
George Coates' plot-thin but FX-rich extravaganza about D.B. Cooper, the skydiving thief who disappeared into the air with \$200,000. \$14-34. 8pm. Thru 1/3. George Coates Performance Works, 110 McAllister. 863-4130.

Sharon McNight
The Queen of Cabaret opens a new club with a fun act. Special New Year's Eve show on Thursday. \$15, 2 drink min. 9:30pm. Thru 12/31. Cyril's, below Club Fugazi, 678 Green St. 421-4222.

Pickle Family Circus Holiday Show
Clowns take center stage in this amusing troupe of acrobatic comedians. \$8-25. 2pm. 7:30pm Fri. & Sat. Thru 1/2. Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon St. 826-5678.

PreGame
Hilarious send up of that hetero macho bastion of beer-drinking football-cheering idiocy: the tailgate party. \$1-12. 8pm. Thru Sun. Climate Theatre. 252 9th at Howard. 626-9196.

Gay Comedy Night
Sabrina Matthews, Karla Carmony, Amy Boyd. \$8. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Television of Dennis Potter
Retrospective of British TV's best writer, including *The Singing Detective* and *Pennies From Heaven* (the Bob Hoskins version), plus several series. \$5.50-7. Series discounts available.

Thru 1/24. University Art Museum/Pacific Film Archive, 2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 642-1412.

SUNDAY 27

Santa's Boy Toys
Holiday lip-synching and skits with the Rubber Club, sponsored by the Asian AIDS Project. 10pm. N' Touch, 1548 Polk at Sacramento. To perform, call 227-0946.

A Karen Carpenter Christmas
Big Bang Beat has only just begun to get close to you with this tribute to the AM saccharin queen. \$7-10. 3 & 7pm. Closing night. 1062 Valencia near 22nd. 641-0235.

Angels
Group show of sculpture, photography, paintings and mixed media. Also "5X5 Memorium 55 No. 1," Vittorio Arimondi's photographic essay of 55 men, all beautiful models, all dead from AIDS. Thru 12/31. Spectrum Gallery, 511 Harrison at 1st. Call for hours. 495-1113.

Rituals
Exhibit of photos, mixed media, sculpture and primitive altars. Azido Arts, 560 Hayes. 252-9001.

Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of SF
Worship services 9am, 11am & 7pm. AIDS ministry, women's & men's groups. Rev. Jim Mitulski, pastor. 150 Eureka St. 863-4434.

Golden Gate MCC
Worship services: 12:45 & 7pm; 11am Bible study. 1600 Clay St. Rev. Buddy Trulock. 567-9080.



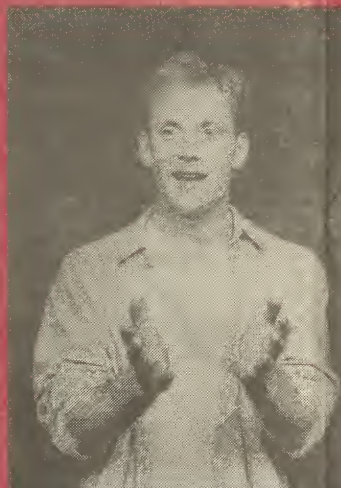
Look at me, I'm Sandra B.

New Year's Eve. No other day induces so much pressure to have a good time, and with the help of a lot of alcohol. Frankly, we've seen plenty of balls drop, and would rather just curl up to a good Anne Rice novel, a chunk of Cadbury, and hope a good time comes flying in through the window promising the Dark Gift. But in case that isn't your cup of tea, see **Sandra Bernhard** deftly impersonate a singer in between sardonic monologues at the Orpheum Theatre. 8pm & 11:45pm. \$25 & \$40, respectively. Hopefully she, and we, will have a joyful Ciccone-free new year.

Get even funkier this New Year's and get hopping at El Rio, where **Azucar Y Crema**, an outstanding all-women's salsa band, will surely kick out some well-needed yah yahs. \$12. 9pm-2am. El Rio, 3158 Mission. 282-3325.

A surely unusual way to greet the new year while contemplating times past, **Singing for Your Life** is twenty-four hours of continuous music, meditation, reflection and spiritual respite, with the extraordinary vocal talents of **Bobby McFerrin** and **Voicestra**. Chant along, hum, conduct or just enjoy the improvisational soul-stirring happening. Also open: the Labyrinth, a walking meditation in the nave. Free admission. 6pm Wednesday, December 30, through 6pm Thursday, Grace Cathedral, 1051 Taylor at California. 776-6611.

In the Life is, of course, the lesbian & gay variety show too queer for KOED to finance, but at least they're airing it. The second show's a lot better, we hear, with host **Dick Sargent**, **David Drake** doing a section from his hit show *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me*, comics **Frank Maya**, **Sara Cytron**, *Entertainment Tonight's* **Garrett Glaser** chatting about Hollywood homos, and celeb interviews from the October Quilt display, including, yes, **Liza**, who thought the Quilt was "terrific! Really terrific!" Wed., Dec. 30. 10:30pm. KOED.



David Drake kisses and tells on *In the Life*



Laurel & Hardy flicks at the Castro

Eames Demetrios' film, *The Giving*, provides a gritty realistic focus on residents and homeless people in Los Angeles' skid row area. Although a fictional story about a financial executive's encounters with the impoverished, it also puts homeless people in the cast. \$6. 7 & 9:15pm, mats at 2 & 4:30pm. Thru 12/31. Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th at Valencia. 863-1087.

For something a bit lighter, head over to the Castro Theatre for their week-long **Laurel & Hardy Festival**. Every day different funny flicks (some with Stan in campy drag) will be screened, including *Way Out West*, *Blockheads*, *Sons of the Desert*, *Saps at Sea*, *A Chump at Oxford* and many silents rarely seen. 12/25 (yes, they'll be open for Christmas) thru 12/31. Call for schedule. Castro Theatre, Castro at Market. 621-6120.

St John's Presbyterian Church: Inclusive "More Light" congregation in south Berkeley, welcomes & affirms gay men & lesbians. Services 10am. 2727 College Ave, Berkeley. (510) 845-6830.

MONDAY 28

Forbidden Planet
Bambi Lake and The Living End, with Flynn. \$5. 9:30pm. Forbidden Planet, at Paradise Lounge, 308 11th St.

Gay Comedy Open Mike
Emcee Marilyn Pittman. Rookies sign up by phone. \$4. 8pm. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

First Annual Luggage Show
Group exhibition reflecting spiritual, emotional and physical baggage. Works by Joe Soto, Brigitte Peterson, Kenneth Huerta, and others. Thru 1/25. The Luggage Store, 1007 Market. 255-5971.

Robert Bass
Black & white laser prints, collage portraits with irreverent themes. Thru 1/15. Higher Grounds, 3170 16th at Guerrero. 252-5629.

Gump's Windows
Adoptable pets on display from the ASPCA. 9:30am-5pm. Thru 1/2. Gump's 250 Post. 982-1616.

TUESDAY 29

The Return of Rocky and Bullwinkle
An hour and a half of the quirky squirrel and moose team, with Boris and Natasha, Fractured Fairy Tales, Dudley Do-Right, Mr. Peabody and more. Thru 1/2 (closed 12/31). \$5.50. 7:30, 9:25. Mats Wed. & Sat. at 2:15, 7:30, 9:25. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight. 668-3994.

Folk Dancing
Queer hoofing, with lessons 7:30-8, and dancing from 8-9:30pm. Eureka Valley Community Center, 18th & Collingwood.

ACT UP/Golden Gate
Meets Tues., 7pm, at 539 Hayes St. (near Laguna). Office: 252-9275; Hotline: 252-9200.

Modern Icons:
Symbols & Myths
Extraordinary contemporary exploration of myth and symbol in varied mediums by three artists: Kim Smith, Kumiko Tanaka, and Heather Wilcoxon. Thru 2/14. Gallery Piazza, Arts & Culture, 819 Bridgeway, 3rd floor. Sausalito. (415) 331-6711.

Art of the Americas
Art works and artifacts from Meso-, Central and South America from Olmec, Maya, Aztec tribes and North American regions. \$2-5. De Young Museum, Golden Gate Park. 750-3614.

Tuesdays at the Acorn
Meals with a purpose, with 33 percent going to an AIDS organization. This week: Black Coalition on AIDS. \$36 prix fixe meal. 6 & 8pm. The Acorn, 1256 Folsom at 9th. 863-2469.

WEDNESDAY 30

A Night in Old Vienna
San Francisco Symphony performs in a night of special decorations, costumed carolers, waltzing couples in vintage clothes, and the music of Strauss, Lehar, with soprano soloist Marie Plette. \$10-60. 8pm. Also New Year's Eve Gala, 9pm. \$58-100. Davies Symphony Hall, 431-5400.

A Year to Dismember
A Queer Year in Review with skits and routines by Tom Ammiano and Karen Ripley. Also New Year's Eve, with hors d'oeuvres and champagne at the late show. \$12-15. 8 & 10pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness, lower lobby. 861-8972.

The Fifth Element
Contemporary Chicano art; silkscreen prints, site-specific installations, works on canvas, as well as historical pieces. \$2-3. Noon-8pm. Thru 2/7. The Mexican Museum, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. D, Laguna at Marina Blvd. 441-0445.

Kevin Evans
Paintings incorporating iconic imagery. Thru 1/31. Architects and Heroes, 2239 Fillmore (btwn. Clay & Sacramento). 921-8383.

ACT UP/East Bay
Meets Wed., 7:30pm, at First Unitarian Church of Oakland, 14th & Castro, Oakland (3 blocks west of City Ctr. BART). (510) 836-4401.



Hamsa El Din
at Noe Valley Ministry (Sat.)

THURSDAY 31

Maskara
Costume party presented by Barangay. Food, drinks, music and prizes for best costume. \$5. 6-10pm. Club Room of the Saint Francis Place at 3rd & Folsom. Sponsored by Filipino Task Force on AIDS. 703-9876 or 1800-FIL-AIDS.

Marga Gomez & Mark Davis
Ring in the new year with two witty standups. \$12. 8 & 10:30pm. Thru 1/3 (\$10.). Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.



Rocky & Bullwinkle at the Red Vic (Tue.)

Healing Circle Retreat A new year weekend in Sonoma. Reflect on the new year and renew with new friends. \$150. Info: Gregg. 863-2334.

AIDS Health Project Offers prevention programs, mental health, substance abuse & antibody counseling; AIDS health professional training program & a guide to AIDS research. 1855 Folsom St. Suite 506. 476-6430.

Women Artists Bearded Lady Cafe seeks visual work to display in solo or group shows. Shez. 648-5980. Bearded Lady Cafe & Gallery, 485 14th at Guerrero.

Queer Nation Thursday 7pm. Women's Building, 18th St. btwn. Valencia & Guerrero. Queer Line 985-7141.

PWA Theatre needs volunteer secretary, volunteer coordinator and treasurer. Send letter and resume to PWA Theatre, 140 Page St., Suite 3, SF CA. 94102, or call 863-1632.

Couples Support Group Sponsored by Shanti Project. A group for couples where one or more partners has AIDS. 777-CARE.

EACH (Early Advocacy & Care for HIV) offers alternate/complementary therapies info, peer counseling, referrals on housing, transportation, substance abuse and early intervention. 944 Market, Suite 210. 403-3800.

Boycott Colorado! Call the governor's office to voice your gay opinion: 1-800-332-1716.

New Year's Eve at the Palace
Comedy and dancing til 3am. Geoff Bolt, Jeremy Kramer, Fran Solomita & Ed Crasnick in a benefit for children with AIDS. \$20-45. 7 & 9:30pm. Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon St. (510) 762-BASS.

Paula Poundstone
Off-kilter comedy from a great wit, who, while covering the GOP convention for Jay Leno, said, "These people are not nice. Can I go now?" \$25. 9pm. Veterans' Memorial Auditorium, Marin. 499-6400.

Jose Sarria & Tommi Rose
Two local drag institutions conjure up Broadway tunes and comic frivolity in an intimate cabaret show. \$20. 9 & 11pm. Sundays thru 1/31, \$10. 4 & 6:30pm. The Blue Muse, 409 Gough at Hayes. 626-7505.

The Temptations
The legendary Motown R&B band rings in the new year. Also Dick Bright and the SRO Band. \$165, with dinner, 7:30pm. \$95, cocktail show at 9pm. The Fairmont Hotel, atop Nob Hill. 772-5021.

Healing Circle
Special evening honoring the new year, with visualization, sharing, music and ritual. 8-10:15pm. SF Dance Theatre, 60 Brady (btwn. Market & Otis). 863-2334.

ARC/AIDS Drop-in Group
For men with AIDS-related conditions or symptomatic HIV disease. 6-8pm. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. Free. 626-7000.



Kevin Evans art (Wed.)

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COMICS *MARGA GOMEZ & MARK DAVIS*
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FRI, JAN 1 • 8 & 10 PM • \$10
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GRAPHICS: MARIO MONDELLI FOR NEW FACES (864-8094)

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Foreskin servicing required by attrac, 40yo, HIVneg WM w/ample skin, 5'11, 153lbs, br/br, smooth, 'stache, safe, healthy, vers btm, dildoe, no smk/drugs. You: GWM/GLM w/insatiable foreskin appetite, 18-45yo, attrac, wt/ht proportional, HIVneg, vers top, safe, no smk/drugs. Plusses: uncut, well hung, poss frndshp/rtnshp but not nec. EXT. 5404

Musc Cauc (Italn Am), 36yo, sks special Asian who is stable, honest, monog, not a flake. He would have a hairless, silky smooth body and smooth, hairless, musc legs. Let's talk and get acquainted. EXT. 5393

Horny, hairy married WM, 34yo, loves gay porn, needs oral and anal service in EBay, 6', 180lbs, in shape. Call now! EXT. 5405

Athletic Asian, 44yo, 5'9, attracted to lean, smooth, cln-shvn WM into outdoors, sports, arts, travel, films and hot romance. EXT. 5407

Very masc and hndsm bi WMM, 6'2, 195lbs, 35yo, would like to meet other masc guys to give me sports massage in exchange for complete oral satisfaction. EXT. 5408

Puerto Rican Virgo, 35yo, hung like a horse and very hot top, lkg for GLM, 18-45yo, btm, sexy, gdlkng. Sincere only. Call. EXT. 5409

You be butch, butch, butch. Me: 52yo, 6', 160lbs, btm ckskr who loves to pls his man. I'll do what you want to get you off. EXT. 5410

GBM, 39yo, 5'11, 230lbs, hndsm, sks lrg, hefty and fat men of all races for mutual, sexual pleasure. EXT. 5412

Solo suck-off. Would like to meet men who can do their own tool, or guys who fantasize about doing it themselves. EXT. 5401

Blond prof wants GWM prof dad. Me: 38yo, solid, blu, HIVneg. You: successful, hairy, cut, HIVneg. EXT. 5402

SF well-bit BM, 40s, sks horny, hot, bubble butt, hairy assed btm, HIVneg. European btms, sex and more. EXT. 5403

GWM, 48yo, 173lbs, from So City, needs male over 21yo, unclean uncut, who loves to exchange and sniff men's dirty underwear together. HIVneg. EXT. 5414

SWM, 24yo, awesome, 6', 185lbs, bl/baby blu, tan, musc, intell, tough-lkng top guy just moved to SF, interested in other buff-lkng college jocks, 18-23yo only, for wild times, great parties or just to hang out. Call me, I'm lkg for some new friends. EXT. 5413

Cksks Society w/healthy athletic legs. EXT. 5406

Like fast boats? Skng 18-20yo who would enjoy driving easygoing older man's modern twin engine cruiser around SF Bay. Stove, refig, hot/cold running water, TV. Prefer youthful energy and honesty. No sex required. EXT. 5396

Hot, strong, tough, hairy and crazy wrestler, 40yo, 5'8, 153lbs, wants buddies for prvt bouts, tame and friendly fun or rough, brutal fights. EXT. 5416

Hot, in-shape GWM, 27yo, sks gdlkng, musc man, any size/race. I'm fun, safe, HIVneg, you too pls, 5'9, 140lbs, brn/gm. EXT. 5425

Not lkg for love, just sex by 40yo, 190lbs, 8" thick cock. Must be HIVneg. E Bay. Short, stocky and btm only. EXT. 5428

I love to suck and get fucked by yng, rough, kinky men. Will fulfill your fantasy. Me: 35yo, 150lbs, 5'10, grn/brn, gdlkng. Use mel. EXT. 5435

BM, 29yo, 190lbs, husky, invlpled, wants flng w/one who doesn't just lay there. Be blk, Latin, smart, hairy/soft. EBay a plus. EXT. 5439

Lkng for 9" plus top to fill my big bubble butt. Me: 28yo, hndsm LM, 5'5. You: masc men of color pref. EXT. 5440

Are you a slim, well-hung, 21-50yo WM lkg for an attrac, HIVneg, mid-30s, 29" waist, deep-throated Asian btm? EXT. 5449

Attrac Asian wntd by attrac GWM. I'm 5'8, blond, HIVneg. I enjoy working out, eating out and many activities. I'm lkg for a quality rtnshp full of life. EXT. 5451

Pound my bubble butt and make me moan and beg for more and more! Me: GBM, masc, btm, 35yo, 6', 178lbs, smooth body, athletic. Hairy a plus. Any race. EXT. 5453

Domnt, masc WM, well-bit, hung big, wants in-shape, pass/submsv WM w/hairy bod, 20-30s. EXT. 5454

WM in late 50s lkg for wht, submsv 28-25yo male, very boyish-lkng. You must be gdlkng, clean, HIVneg, totally mine. I'll take good care of you. EXT. 5455

I'm a chaser. 5'7, 175lbs, uncut 8" thick, low hangers, big head, need a beefy bear mas. Chubby, round, gut, belly builder, 3-way OK. EXT. 5456

26yo, 5'11, 175lbs, gdlkng, lkg for a friend w/ a big tool to party w/my cozy hole and enjoy frndshp. EXT. 5457

GLM btm lkg for top man to work on hot ass. Toys, fingering, FF - I'll give my manhole to the right top man. EXT. 5458

I'm an attrac, HIVneg, cut, mid-40s GWM w/lots of body hair. I want to be your foot, boot-licking, leg, crawl slave. I'll do your bidding. Fine head too. EXT. 5459

Gdlkng GWM, late 40s, 6'2, 160lbs, into arts, sks thin, smooth, 25-35yo boyfriend for intimate eves, maybe more. Pls describe yourself. EXT. 5460

33yo WM cockfeeder sks cock slave to use and abuse. On your knees boy, worship my cock. You know where you belong. Call me now, boy. EXT. 5461

Mentor sks protege: worldly, wealthy, 50s, 5'9, 250lbs, sks 18-25yo GWM for monog, rewarding rtnshp. Must relate to older man. EXT. 5462

Psychic? Paranormal expriences? Exotic, esoteric, spiritual pursuit? Me too. Let's talk. Blessed be. EXT. 5464

Plow my tight, hairy bubble butt. Me: GLM btm. You: GWM, masc top, 18-35yo only. Use my hole for your pleasure. EXT. 5465

Grandfather sks GW 18-25yo grandson for a monog, exciting, traditional, renaissance, mentor/protege rtnshp. Relate to older man. EXT. 5466

Well-bit WM, 5'11, cut big, needs big, hairy bubble butt to eat and fuck from well-bit WM, 20-30s. Hungry and hot wntd. EXT. 5467



Late morning sex buddy. Me: cute GWM, 40yo, 6'5, 200lbs, top. You: cute GWM, 18-35yo, slim, btm. Ass massage, lite spanking - you need it bad! EXT. 5417

GBM, 226lbs, 6'1, lkg for a phone buddy. EXT. 5418

Blond boy sks gargantuan BB for total worship. Keep replies brief so they won't get cut off. Only hardcore musclegods need apply. EXT. 5419

GAM wntd by GWM, 45yo, 5'11, 195lbs, trim beard, bl eyes, very hairy body, edctd, prof. We: HIVneg, affectionate, happy, enjoy home life, no smk/drugs. You: smooth, under 30yo, under 6', under 150lbs, understand the mature man. EXT. 5420

Husky, musc, gdlkng WM, 35yo, w/big musc legs and bubble butt, sks musc, strt-acting, beefy BM/Arab to play w/my hard nipples/bubble butt. EXT. 5422

Scathog/toilet - cum, piss, spit, cheese, BO, hairy, beard, tats, 39yo, good bod, services raunch tops real good. Gay, strt, bi - cum on bud, my face, your ass, yeah! EXT. 5423

Hndsm GWM, 33yo, 5'10, 160lbs, blk/hzl, hairy, primarily pass, stable, HIVneg, independent, skng hndsm, 28-38yo, 6', GWM/GHM, good body, primarily domnt, HIVneg, self-confident, stable. Interests should include gym, art, quiet eves. Serious only, no strange-o's. EXT. 5424

AM, 30s, sks strt-acting, HIVneg, 33yo and yng AM/WM for lover. I'm into intense safe sex only. EXT. 5426

GBM top sks GWM/GLM to service my big cock. If you've got a deep throat and love to get fucked, give me a call. Late nite a plus. EXT. 5427

Ball worship? Beefy WM, 45yo, 5'11, has big, sensitive, full nuts, sks oral experts to lick and love 'em. EXT. 5429

GW butch guy, 39yo, 5'8, lite brn hair, hairy, husky, needs a blk stud to suck off and ride me. EXT. 5430

Horny 29yo European, edctd, attrac, tall, HIVneg, honest, playful, lkg for Asian w/similar qualities. EXT. 5431

Tall, hard-bodied 32yo WM, washboard abs, wants fuck buddy, 20-39yo, any race, in shape, musc body. EXT. 5432

Late-nite action in the Castro w/attrac, hot, Italn btm. EXT. 5433

Vers top sks same. Bi BM, 6'3, sks another vers top for sexual frndshp. Taller, hairy a plus. EXT. 5434

Musc-bound GBM BB lkg for other masc, musc GWM BB for safe, fun times. Only musc guys need respond. EXT. 5436

Hot, masc, musc, very gdlkng, healthy, 30yo WM sks drk haired, hairy, well-endowed Italn men, 30-45yo. Req gdlkng, in shape. EXT. 5437

GBM, 39yo, 5'11, 230lbs, hndsm, hung, sks large and fat men of all races for sexual pleasure. EXT. 5438

Are you curious about what men do in bed? Are you curious enough? Easygoing 34yo GWM will show and tell at your place w/wo demos. OK even if you have only ?s. I like curiosity in a man. A curious mind is an active mind. EXT. 5452

Blk top sks btms for hot and safe fucking and sucking and dild play. Femme males only. EXT. 5450

San Jose WM, 24yo, 6', 190lbs, b0r/bl, very athletic, new to scene, lkg for WM under 26yo, athletic and blond a plus. EXT. 5441

40yo Berkeley BM, 240lbs, attrac, gives enthusiastic head and rim job to musc, masc, attrac WM only. Hairy a plus. EXT. 5442

Latin btm, 5'11, 165lbs, 28yo, needs tight, hairy ass taught a lesson by GWM tops w/hard dicks, 18-30yo, masc. EXT. 5443

Hot WM, gym bod, has hungry tongue for well-bit, beefy WM w/ a tight, hungry bubble butt. EXT. 5444

Smooth, masc Asian, yng 45yo, 5'9, sks similar cln-shvn, lean, musc, in-shape WM into foreplay, massage and safe, hot sex. EXT. 5445

Pet me, slap me, stroke me, spank me, make me wear panties, peel them off me, push me, pull me, force me, fool me. EXT. 5446

Very hndsm GBM SM top, 5'10-1/2, 170lbs, HIVpos, skng submsv/obed GWM, 25-50yo, slave/boy. Must be in shape and have good attitude. EXT. 5463

Ex-Marine, 28yo, 5'10, 165lbs, hot, drk blond, smooth, musc, wants buddies for daytime wrestling action Thurs and Fri in prvt gym. EXT. 5447

You: finan sec GWM, 30-45yo, 6' plus, 180lbs, big boned, nat musc, hndsm, masc, hairy w/hairy bubble butt, cut, endowed, low-hangers, insatiable btm, into Gr, Fr, rim, spank, shave, cuddling, nude tanning, hot tubs, sex clubs, country, 3-ways, hygiene. Finan sec GWM, 37yo lks 30, boyishly hndsm, small boned, 130lbs, masc, 7-1/2" cut thick, nice butt, top, wanting long term rtnshp. EXT. 5448

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pagan, hairy and older a plus. I'm
5'9, 160lbs, br/gr, smooth, hung
and uncut. EXT. 5357

free massage for yng, tight-bodied
guys who like to strip naked and
enjoy sensual ecstasy by trim, str-
cting guy. EXT. 5363

[illegible]

Italian ex-football jock sks expert
 moral servicing on reg basis. Castro
 loc. All replies considered. EXT.
 5392

GWM, 32yo, wants to meet Asian, wht guys, 27-35yo, for fun, frndshp, poss rltnshp. I'm top, you be btm, be nice, down to earth. mature. EXT. 5411

Musc 35yo sks musc guys w/the biggest nipples on earth! No BS. You won't be sorry. EXT. 5421

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PHOTO: HARBOR STUDIOS

BAY AREA REPORTER BAZAAR

Mr. Marcus



Season's Greetings from San Francisco's hard-working leather title holders (Back row l. to r.): Mr. Drummer Emerson Briney, Leather Daddy Irwin Kane, IML Lenny Broberg. (Front row l. to r.): Dyke Daddy Skeeter Wildman, Ms. SF Leather Lupe Rosenbaum, IML. "Blair" and Leather Daddy's Boy Bill White
(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

Pigs Will Host Final '92 Eagle Beer Bust

You won't have to dial 911 if you want to make a cop or a deputy sheriff come next Sunday, Dec. 27. The Golden State Peace Officers Association (a.k.a. Pigs in Paradise) will host the final beer/soda bust of 1992 at the SF Eagle from 1500-1800. While they themselves wouldn't use the words, this is a "no-frills" event; i.e., no auction, no raffle, and no entertainment — drag or otherwise.

This could be construed to mean that the GSPOA members will not, repeat, will not, be in their uniforms, and uniform mavens are already lined up at the G.G. Bridge in

disbelief. Just a between holidays beer/soda bust with food. Nevertheless, knowing you're surrounded by law men and law women should make you feel secure.

In his press release, that cute Mike Hill, secretary of the GSPOA, didn't say whether any of the Pigs would be detailed to stalk the bums breaking into cars around the Eagle on busy nights/afternoons. Lenny Broberg would love that! Hope to see all of you there for the final beer/soda bust of 1992. This one should, as always, be fun.

★ ★ ★

It was busy around here



Happy Holidays from (l) Mr. Watering Hole Ed Sparan and Mr. Headquarters Art Tomaszewski who have both held successful fundraisers during the past year.
(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

last week. Parties galore all over the place. The Eagle's Christmas party on Thursday night, Dec. 17, was well-attended, and the buffet was practically in the realm of "gourmet." What a layout!

David Herrin at the Eagle had to cope with two "no-show" entertainers and a no-show paid-in-advance buffet for his "Boys and Girls in Toyland" benefit on Saturday night, Dec. 19, at the Eagle. While no one would fault any volunteer entertainer for being under the weather, there is a certain amount of incredulity that they waited until 45 minutes before the event started to let anyone know about their illness. Dickie Davis had to carry the load with Don Thompson tickling the keys. Don was keeping alert for lewd advances directed toward his "roommate," Jimmy Lee Murray, you know, Mr. Blackfire, formerly of Petaluma via Chicago. As for the buffet, well, we haven't heard the last of this one yet, have we,
(Continued on next page)



Safe Seasonal Holidays from Steeva the Deeva at Frenchy's on Geary. Steve says they have 40 different kinds of condoms from the smallest to the largest available in the store.
(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

Mr. Marcus



Headquarters' staff Nelson, Philip and Andy joined Nick Veratakis for the Eagle's Christmas party last Thursday, Dec. 17.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

(Continued from previous page)

Kathy!

The 1993 Great Buns Calendar, produced through the efforts of Vern Stewart and the Watering Hole Saloon, made its debut on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 20, in direct conflict with the GLAAD "adult beverage" bust at the Eagle, which probably accounts for the low turnout at the Hole. And what a shame.

According to my source, the printer of the calendar came through with only a dozen calendars, and there were even less of the buns winners on hand to autograph them. It's a very nice calendar, and you should buy one or more (to benefit the Godfather Service Fund); they will be available at the Watering Hole and all over the place. As if the excitement over the calendar wasn't enough, La Vern got himself involved with an alleged Jackhammer (the new bar) bartender (Ray) from Boston, who advised me that the opening of that place has been pushed back to Jan. 20 or thereafter.

The GLAAD beer bust at the Eagle on Sunday, Dec. 20, was fun. Tom Ammiano laid down his funny dialogue to the delight of the natives and tourists alike. IML Lenny Broberg as the emcee was, as always, in top form, although he admitted that he'd been a bit unnerved the night before at Club Eros playing Santa Claus when a well-endowed patron, while being photographed on Santa's lap, flogged poor Lenny's shinbone to death with his low-hanging hammer.

The GLAAD beer bust entertainment was eagerly awaited. While I have the utmost admiration for the vocal/comedic talents of Dowager Empress Jose and Finocchio's Tommi Rose, I couldn't understand why they crooned a beautiful (but "downer") duet for the rowdy crowd on hand. Jose was attired in what appeared to be a Native American costume (feathers and all), but the jewelry was definitely South Seas! Are you reading this, Chuck Largent?

Tommi was hampered with a bad cold, but still man-

aged to drape his shapely legs all over Tim Wong, who was trying to photograph the scene and protect his expensive camera equipment. Tommi and Jose will be performing "Together Again for the First Time" at the Blue Muse (Gough and Hayes), beginning New Year's Eve at 2100 and 2300. You can make reservations by calling 626-7505 for a \$20 seat. That same number will give you all the info you need.

* * *

You're probably inundated with party/dinner/cocktail invitations, but if you missed out, here are some interesting diversions for your consideration:



Mike Powers is Mr. September on the 1993 Great Buns Calendar produced by Vern Stewart of the Watering Hole and on sale now.

(Photo: Bob Drapeau)

Thursday, Dec. 24: It's Christmas Eve, and if you live in the South Bay, they're having a "do" at Greg's Ballroom in San Jose, with a full-course holiday dinner being served at 1800 and lots of other surprises. Now that's classy! Hi, Greg. Hi, Graylin.

Saturday, Dec. 26: All the dumb-blond jokes you ever wanted to hear on the boards at the Lone Star Saloon beer/soda bust today (to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund) from 1500-1900 for only \$5. It is, jokingly, to benefit the United Bimbo College Fund, and blond joke lists are being compiled with much eagerness. Tape and video recorders are allowed.

Sunday, Dec. 27: Pigs in Paradise host the final beer/soda bust of the year at the Eagle, 1500-1800. No frills. Beef/food for \$8.

Monday, Dec. 28: Christmas party at the Griffe on Polk Street, starting at 1600 today with a holiday buffet and lots and lots of video. This is always a fun bar, so join the cuties who hang out there for a festive evening.

Tuesday-Thursday, Dec. 29-31: The lull before the big night. Start figuring out your taxes and let bygones be bygones, if possible. Jose and Tommi Rose open at the Blue Muse on New Year's Eve. Many hangovers on Jan. 1. Designate a driver and be very, very careful. The Pigs from Hell and Paradise will be out in force!

There's lots more coming your way in 1993. Here's a few you might want to keep in mind as we plunge into the next 365 days:

The first bare chest contest at the Eagle for the 1994 calendar will be on Thursday, Jan. 7, at 2130. Get pumped up and compete to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. That cute subscription manager for the women's mag *On Our Backs* will be one of the judges.

Weekend of Jan. 16-19: The Mid-Atlantic Mr. Leather Contest in Washington, DC, by the Centaur Motorcycle Club. This is the second biggest leather title competition in the nation after International Mr. Leather. IML Lenny Broberg will be the head judge, and boy, do they have some surprises for him!

Saturday, Jan. 23: Ms. Lupe Rosenbaum passes the Ms. SF Leather title on to her

successor tonight at 174 King St. Headquarters Bar has already named their contestant, but nobody bothered to send out a press release, so maybe you can read about it somewhere else. Or so it has been promised, but promises are/were made to be broken. It says here in small print.

Saturday, Feb. 6: It's the Eddie and Wally Show! The new King of Leather and Prince of Leather will be named tonight at the SF-style Mardi Gras ball. Location to be announced.

There's more, but that will keep you busy planning and saving your hard-earned tokens.

Hey, accept my sincere wishes for a joyous holiday. Give thanks for our successes and pray for even more in the future. Support all the worthy causes in our community, and give serious thought to giving one stranger a hug every day. Not just during this Christmas season, but every day in 1993. Wear your skins while you're doing it and whistle while you lurk! ▼

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Book Briefs

Stocking Stuffer

The Dyke Detector: How to Tell the Real Lesbians From Ordinary People
by Shelly Roberts. Illustrated by Yani Batteau. Paradigm, \$7.95

The Dyke Detector is not an instruction book for would-be lesbian detectives or even a manual for writing dyke dick fiction. It is, in fact, a warmly funny tutorial — a lesson plan, if you will, for discovering the definitely dyke among the hopelessly heterosexual. Using the handy clues in this book, you'll be able to play spot the dyke like a pro in just a few short chapters.

"Ask to see the pictures in her wallet" is a solid tip. If she produces "prints of her pussycats ... erase all scintilla of doubt from your mind. The more kitty color prints, the surer you can be." Of course, I happened to have 13 color pictures of my cat in my bag when I read that section — the proof of the pudding, or the catnip, as the case may be.

Shelly Roberts has put together a comical collection of sapphic mores, delightfully illustrated by Yani Batteau. The writing is warmly witty, with more than a few loving pokes at our (occasional) tendency to take ourselves too seriously. I predict that *The Dyke Detector* will be the stocking stuffer of choice this holiday season. — **Deborah Peifer**

Tame Romance

Stonehurst
By Barbara Johnson; Naiad Press, \$9.95

My guess is that someone at Naiad has decided to keep trying the historical romance until somebody gets it right. *Stonehurst* doesn't. Amidst the offhand reference to things Regent (the novel purports to be set in early 19th-century England), Lady Cassandra (the femme) and Alex (andra, the butch) meet, fight, fall in love, conquer obstacles, and live happily ever after.

Oh, yes, and they have sex. Constantly. The mere fact that they are being chased by highwaymen, a search party (Cassandra's papa doesn't want her to run away), and a rapist wannabe, doesn't stop the gals from pulling over to the side of the road, to enjoy "the softness and, ultimately, the wetness." As erotica, *Stonehurst* is remarkably tame and not terribly interesting.

Less entertaining than the erotic moments, however, is the rest of the novel. Lady Cassandra is a spoiled little rich girl; Alex is a woman of gentle breeding whose poverty has forced her to wear men's clothing, muck out stables, and generally feel put upon by the injustice of woman's lot. When Alex helps Cassandra into a side-saddle, their hands touch, and Cassandra comes down with a severe, albeit confusing (how can she have these feelings for a woman?) case of the hots for the insolent Alex. Alex is equally hot, although, given her previous experiences with various maids, less confused.

Love conquers all, of course, as these two characters, who could easily be mistaken for American women of the late 20th century, process their feelings, have more sex, and find comfort at the estate of Cassandra's spinster (we know what that means) aunt. Throughout the novel, concerns about an unnatural attraction between the two women overshadow any attempt to create a sense of period. The result is an unsatisfying and annoying read. — **Deborah Peifer**

Suspenseful Delight

Dead Certain
by Claire McNab; Naiad, \$9.95

I like to avoid superlatives — such a danger, don't you know, of the designated best or worst being surpassed the following week. I'm going to screw my courage to the sticking place, though, and say that, in my opinion, Claire McNab is the best mystery writer at Naiad Press. McNab's detective, Carol Ashton, is a real-life lesbian, with strengths and weaknesses aplenty, who consistently challenges herself and her readers.

In No. 5 of the Ashton series, *Dead Certain*, the detective is brought in to whitewash an apparent suicide. She isn't told to make a finding of accidental death — just encouraged, strongly, by her superiors in the police department, various political types, and a frightening, anonymous voice threatening her with exposure.

In the meantime, Sybil, Carol's lover and a wonderfully realized character, is resisting more and more Carol's insistence that they must remain closeted to protect Carol's job. Throw in a terrible twist, or several, and *Dead Certain* will surely keep you intrigued and entertained throughout.

McNab's characterizations are finely detailed, and her plotting just gets better and better. The writing is quite fine, with a splendid sense of how we think and how we talk. It's a real pleasure to watch Ashton, coolly and with exquisite courtesy, demolish a suspect or an annoying public relations person.

Dead Certain is a delight — funny, thoughtful, and excruciatingly suspenseful. Hooray! — **Deborah Peifer**

Books

St. Closeted of Manhattan

Broken Covenant
by Charles Sennott; Simon and Schuster, \$23

by Marv. Shaw

Our century — self-indulgent, unjust and violent to an appalling degree — is still not without its saints. Many have been or are being recognized in their lifetimes, a phenomenon that occurred less often in past ages. In this century, Gandhi, Albert Schweitzer and Mother Teresa come quickly to mind. They share a hallmark, a selfless devotion to the welfare of others.

So seemed Father Bruce Ritter, who began in the early '70s to minister to street kids, a raffish, frequently delinquent lot for whom peddling drugs or their skin was all too often their livelihood.

While Ritter was intently devoted to rescuing these kids from a miserable present and a probable future in the slammer or with a slit throat, he was finding many opportunities to indulge his secret passion for their bodies.

The street kids knew about his seductions from the start. They spread the warning among their peers, but were afraid to tell adult authorities, who they thought would not believe them. Ritter's colleagues had their suspicions but submerged them, feeling such behavior unlikely in so saintly a man.

The sex went on intermittently, while the empire of juvenile salvation known as Covenant House grew from its Times Square origin to a high-rise in New York's west end before expansion to other U.S. cities and eventually to foreign sites as well.

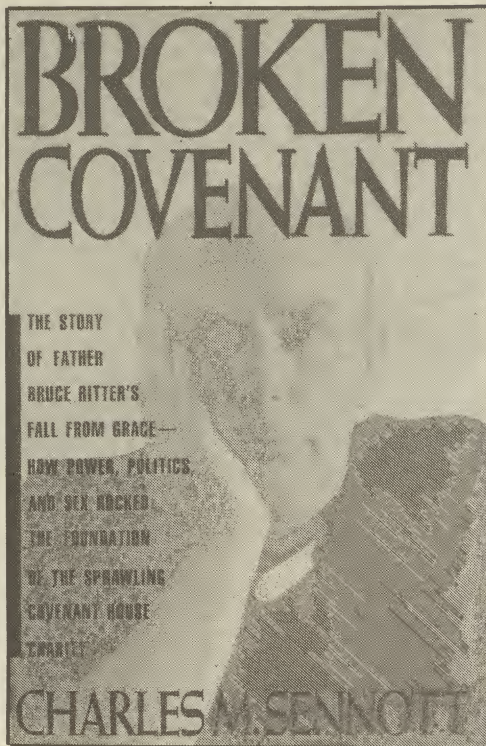
Traducing the Wealthy

Ritter, a Franciscan priest, had climbed from a poor New Jersey Catholic background through succeeding levels of ecclesiastical education in the United States and Rome. He separated himself discreetly from his vows and his pledged obedience to the dictates of his order. He got away with it by traducing the wealthy and powerful into supporting his charity until it grew to the size of an international corporation.

Sennott, a *N.Y. Post* reporter during Ritter's glory days, traces the latter's fantastic career and its sordid dissolution. The journalist demonstrates how super-wealthy right wingers like Peter Grace and others in the secret Catholic order called the Knights of Malta promoted Covenant House, all the while bolstering Central American fascists like Roberto Alejos, who was responsible for killing the parents of the kids Covenant House was trying to help in Guatemala.

Matching this corruption was gross mismanagement and aggrandizement within the charity's staff, including Ritter himself.

In yet another irony, much of the money Ritter was siphoning off was going to maintaining a two-bit hustler named Kevin Kite, who eventually turned against his benefactor. Kite, whom a Covenant House ally still calls a "sleazoid," spilled his guts to a *N.Y.* district attorney. Wired for sound, Kite secured enough evidence to start legal proceedings.



Cast a Wide Net

That broke open everything. In the brouhaha that followed, the players — Ritter, the *N.Y. Post*, the DA's office, the ultra-right fat cats and the hapless associates in Covenant House — all get it in Sennott's detailed anatomizing of the whole mess.

Sennott's casts a wide net, representing everyone of any importance at all. But how are they represented? The presentation is mixed, and the mixture is dubious. Sennott documents many of his

abuse." The factor that magnified Ritter's guilt was the hypocrisy of supposedly saving young males from homosexual prostitution while seducing many of them himself in the process.

Evidence Mounted

Though evidence mounted from more of the street canaries, Ritter steadfastly maintained that all their accusations were lies. He still does. Though his sex was with kids past puberty and never with pre-pubescent types — making dubious the interpretation that he was molesting children — his adamant refusal to admit that which everyone associated with the situation now realizes is true only makes hypocrisy darker.

Booted out of the Covenant House charity entirely, Ritter struggled for reassignment to another Franciscan post, even applying for one in India, but to no avail. He now lives on a small, isolated farm in upstate New York, where Sennott tried to interview him. The author found him to be tanned and strong, but still completely unwilling to talk when he knew his visitor's identity.

Sennott implies that humane motives prompted his effort to interview Ritter, but one wonders. In the next-to-last chapter, Sennott includes the psychological interpretations of John Money and other authorities on why some men seduce boys and then obsessively deny they have done so even after the evidence is incontrovertible. A leading theory is something called "cognitive distortion," which convinces them that what they are doing is not bad. Since at least two of these young men were consenting adults and others have apparently carried no psychological scars, even the officially accepted diagnosis of a sexual neurosis might be more extreme than is warranted. ▼

**Ritter
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still does.**

assertions, but isn't above injecting uncorroborated observations to lend his text emotional urgency.

A typical example occurs on page 116. As the author recounts the initiation of Ritter into the heady world of high finance wedded to unassailable philanthropy, he has Ritter think "if he hadn't become a priest, he would have made an excellent CEO himself."

One wonders if this was simply habitual tabloid excess or Sennott's own idea of "the new journalism." Whatever, the instance is not isolated.

For the gay and gay-sensitive reader, Sennott's treatment of Ritter is equivocal. On one hand, the author directly represents the judgment of the church, the U.S. legal establishment, the homophobic majority of the heterosexual population, all of which lumped together Ritter's cluster of acts as "child

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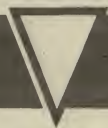
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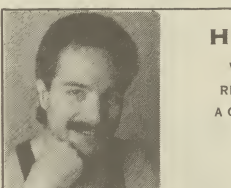
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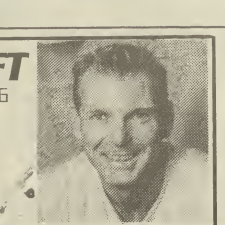
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WITH WARM OIL TO PAMPER AND
RELAX YOU. SWEDISH MASSAGE BY
A CARING, CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL.
BOB 824-6713



People and Personals

MASSAGE

Integral

- Swedish
- Deep Tissue
- Trigger Points
- Sports Massage



Creating a special time for you... 10am-10pm

Edgar A. Furlong CMT, AMTA 863-2958

Totally Awesome Massage
KORY
773-9130

EAST BAY BLOND MASSEUR!

Full Body Erotic Massage
By Blond Muscular Surfer
in the nude! Come and
Relax. Sean (510) 639-7086

Tits & Nipples
773-9130

Warm erotic complete full
body massage. East Bay. \$20.
Why pay more for a great
massage? Jim (510) 527-2714

Kory 773-9130
GREAT BODYWORK!
Complete Release
Melt Away!

**VERY HANDSOME, VERY SEXY,
30 YEAR OLD, EARLY RETIRED
CEO NEEDS/WANTS AND
ENJOYS THE COMPANY OF AN
OLDER GENTLEMAN
RAYMOND 673-1755**

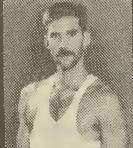
**25YR CLASSICO
LATINO**
648-1919

Claus

Swedish/Sports
CMT/\$35/Pac. Hts.
928-2047

Latest Stud Films Reviewed every
day at Circle J Cinema, 369 Ellis,
10 a.m. to midnight. Exclusive big
cock and self suck movies. Watch
and join in!

BODY AND SOUL



Spectacular Professional Massage
MICHAEL — CMT
Pager #281-0208



Italian Masseuse • in/out
Lucca (510) 658-2437

Bodywork

- Shiatsu
- Polarity
- Hydrotherapy
- Friction Massage

"All the Right Places"
MAJOR HOTELS
In/Out-AM/PM 773-9130
Nice body. Great Touch!
Smooth, Blond, 6'2", 170, 28

EAST BAY ECSTASY
Relieve holiday stress
with some sensual
nurturing touch in a
quiet Lake Merritt
location. \$40/90 minutes.
Thomas, C.M.T.
(510) 444-7005

NICE PECS HAIRY CHEST

Dan, Built Nice & Tight, 6'
195, 33 Yrs. Old. I Offer A
Friendly 1 1/4 Hr. Swedish
Massage On A Table. Great
Atmosphere To Relax In
Also. \$45/In + 60/Out 24 Hrs.
931-7438
Near Japan-Center

**SENSUAL FULL BODY MASSAGE
JUST ARRIVED**
Sexy 24 Y/O Joe 24 Hr.
863-3200

CMT rubs Asian/Latin men the
right way. 752-6334. \$40



HEY! RELAX!

Stiff Neck? Tight Shoulders?
Just Need To Unwind?
Deeply Effective, Highly
Experienced Therapist
Heat Treatment—Non-Oil Lotion
Pleasant, Clean Surroundings
8am-10pm Daily Ken 928-8160

LOVING STROKES

Nurturing sensual healing
satisfying massage provided
by athletic man with
strong hands & great touch.
Steve, CMT 821-2985,
\$45, 90 min. Avail eves &
Mon. thru Thur. anytime.
Outcalls also.



CLASSIC TOUCH FOR THE CONNOISSEUR

Therapeutic Massage
9am — 9pm
Richard, CMT 431-9608

Decadent dude blond dancer
kinky top \$50 Dick 255-6433

HUNK FOR HIRE

For The Fit Man Who Wants
The Best, G6 1st Class. A
Very Hot, Hunky, Very Well
Defined and Muscular
Masseur will give you a
Full Body, Man to Man Deep
Tissue Massage. 5'10", 180,
mid-40s.
Call Ron 563-2392

MASTERLY COMPLETE MASSAGE
By Versatile, Experienced
OAK CMT. From Strong To
Sensual. Greg (510) 547-1364

Daniel 773-8752 for Men
Discipline & Tit Torture

THE PERSONAL TOUCH
Deep, Satisfying, Massage
Certified and Discreet
Daniel 626-4192 Eves./Wknd

Rob, 5'9", Ble, Blind, 23, 145
Massage, Hotels O.K.
In/\$80 Out/\$60 (415) 998-4028

PURE PLEASURE
Handsome, Muscular, Latin
Man Will Release Tension
& Stress For Body Renewal
Fernando 552-8947

BODYWORK

Therapeutic Massage given by
a Certified Masseuse with a
background in Psychology,
Sociology, Human Sexuality and
the arts. Call: 775-4771 24-hrs.

Latest Video Releases Reviewed
on 3 screens simultaneously at
Circle J Cinema, 369 Ellis, 10 a.m.-
Midnite every day. Exclusive JO
and AF fetish films. Join the JO
action!

East Bay's Unique
ENFOLDMENT MASSAGE
in tranquil gardenhouse
near 180 & McArthur BART
ANDREW WELCOMES YOU
5 years exp. 510-601-0870

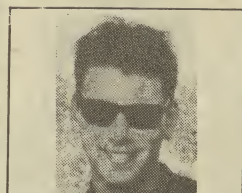
FIRESIDE MASSAGE

1 1/2 Hours of Nurturing Touch
SLIDING SCALE FEE
Johnny 567-2952
(Pacific Hts.)

**HEALING
MASSAGES**
R.L. BATES
(415) 567-6847

BALIF

Bay Area Lawyers for
Individual Freedom
★AIDS Legal Referral★
For Info. 291-5454



Soothing, Healing Massage
\$45.00
CMT — 885-3069



The Perfect Balance

of Erotic and Therapeutic Massage
Deep tissue work a specialty
90 mins. Castro District \$40 or out \$50

Markus 647-9609



SHIATSU

• CERTIFIED SINCE 1981 • NEAR CASTRO
MICHAEL QUINTAL 861-4472 \$40/75m.

RELAX AND ENJOY
Sensuous, full-body massage
Combining Swedish-Esalen
& Accupressure techniques
for total tension relief.
CMT 6'4" 185 Asian Masseuse
Chuck 221-3477 before 9 p.m.

SOOTHING MASSAGE
Firm to deep combination
Swedish-Esalen-Shiatsu
\$45/hour. Matt 621-9846

San Jose • Swedish Massage
\$30/1hr, \$45/1 1/2 hrs, in call
Anthony (408) 288-6169

Marin-SF Hot BB Massage 10 am-
10 pm \$50/70 Ken 459-4217

SONOMA-MARIN
Two College Student Tops
Give great full-body
Massage in the nude. \$80
Chris & Mike (707) 525-4717

Spankings
773-9130

Castro-Church St. -In/Out
FULL BODY RELAX
SF Hotels — 24 Hr. 773-9130

\$25 TOTAL PLEASURE
Completely relaxing, ultra
sensual, professional massage.
Quality for much less.
Vic. CMT 552-5364

**GREAT MASSAGE
HAIRY—WELL-BUILT**
Strong, Sensual, Complete
All Ages In Good Shape
Out Only—Steve 255-9713

Young, Handsome, Hot
HAIRY-CHESTED MAN
Nude Erotic Massage
Rob 560-4371 (Pager)

TOM ADVENTURESOME

Built tight, muscular & hung.
Blond man, 32, 6', 190lbs. Very
friendly. Guys over 30 preferred.
Sensual massage in the buff.
\$45in/\$60out 24 hrs.
563-1302



Enjoy a lush, full-body MASSAGE under the experienced hands of JAS DEWSNAP

Certified Massage Therapist
and registered Jin Shin Do Acupressurist
Sensuous • 864-5447 • Satisfying
Castro location \$40 - 1 1/2 hours - Discount PWA's

Extravagant Intimacy



JOHN SABEL

5 5 2 . 3 2 4 2



People and Personals

MASSAGE

BODY BEAUTIFUL

Cute, butch guy gives a soothing hot-oil massage nude. 5'8", br/blue, hairy pecs, muscular build. \$40/In \$50/Out, trvl to most B. Area Joe 1-510-658-0247 ^{ES2}

HARD HANDSOME HUNK
GDLK B/B Who's Got A Deep firm touch and has a great personality, body, spirit, mind and look. Power and strength awaits. Brad 861-1805 ^{E02}

SENSUAL BUT...

Very Real Massage. George C.M.T. 864-0450 ^{ES2}


AMMA-SHIATSU

The Best Japanese massage in SF. Mark 861-1209 Pgr.# 560-3203 ^{ES2}

TRY JOEY'S

HOT•HOT•HOT

Massage and be released Dk. Hair, Green Eyes, Smooth Italian Stud. 24 hrs. 621-6609 \$50.00 in ^{ES2}



255-4601
Full Body Massage \$70 In, \$80 Out.
Photo Credit: Ben Brundage



Professional Massage Therapy \$40/hr

Michael G. Quirke
C.M.T. #95-9839

A TOUCH OF CLASS A RELAXING MASSAGE

by a handsome, masculine blond, 6', 190, beautifully nude muscular body, summer tan Firm, Erotic Swedish Massage Massage Lotion & Table, Hard to Beat It \$45 In/\$60 Out 75 mins. Mike 931-0149 24 hrs.

NR SF AIRPORT

Fullbody massage your way
CMT Ken \$40 in \$50 out
343-7140

PHYSICAL ATTRACTION

V-handsome Scandinavian man, weight lifter, friendly, 8" cut, blond/blue, 6', 185. Especially like small Asian & Latin men. Erotic nude massage. 45 in 55 out **931-3263** Ron 24 hrs

COME SEE, COME WATCH
COME TOGETHER
Circle J, 10 a.m. Daily
369 Ellis St. ^{ES}

Russian River, S. Rosa, S.F. handsome man—great hands! Strong, sensual, complete nude massage w/skill & care F.F., prostate, shaves, more Dane (707) 887-0873 in/out ^{ES3}

HUNG HAIYR IRISH ON VACATION
Kicks Back/Trains/Verbal Hot/Safe/Fantasy 563-4019 ^{ES3}

Relax with a very smooth Asian. Bpr. 207-2333 ^{E02}

BLOND HAIYR LEGS
Greg, C.M.T. 346-1061 ^{ES3}

J/O Buddy. Shy. Outcalls. 826-6290 Bpr. 719-8599 Victor ^{ES3}

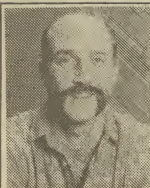
Deluxe total body massage Larry \$25 24 hrs. 621-8560 ^{ES2}

RELEASE STRESS

Hot muscular body builder gives strong, sensitive full body massage. \$50/In Glen, C.M.T. 558-9727 ^{E01}

EAST BAY

NILES/PLEASANTON
Soothing hot oil, full body Swedish Massage provided by 5'9", 150# Athlete * **SECLUDED LOG CABIN** * in rustic wooded setting \$40/hr. \$50/1 1/2 hrs. shower 8 am to 11 pm Call Michael (510) 862-0228

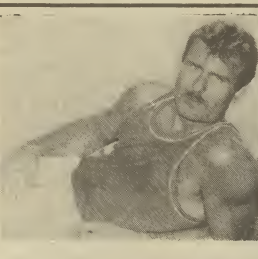


RELAXATION ...

A Rare Commodity. I Guarantee It!

Bill Murphy, Certified Massage Therapist

\$40.00 — 1-1/2 Hours Castro Location
Gift Certificates Available 626-4019



Blond Canadian

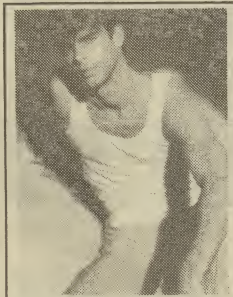
Even if you're a little shy One-of-a-kind-Man When you need a friendly hand, a warm sensual experience & a fun man, 6', 195, nude, erotic Swedish hot lotion rub. Experienced

Ron • 922-3250 • 24hr

-MAN TO MAN- Full Body Massage



\$50 In/\$65 Out
Anthony 931-2395



Nurturing/Caring Massage

550-0833

FEEL THE MAGIC OF CREATIVITY

Supportive, nurturing hot-oil massage Athletic or Hypnotherapeutic bodywork Acupressure

Creative, sensual body/work

Jack Walder, CMT

252-7100 1 1/2 hrs. \$40 Discount PWAs

CASTRO LOCATION



Photo by Original

KORY 773-9130 BOY NEXT DOOR
Safe Scenes & Fantasies ^{ES2}

Fantastic massage by an old pro. \$35 Roy 621-1302 ^{ES3}

773-8752 Young Top Stud Expert Sensual Massage ^{ES2}

DISCOUNT MSG

\$20-30 C.M.T. Call 775-4771 24hr. ^{ES2}

Daniel 773-8752 In/Out My Hands—Your Hungry Butt ^{ES2}

TAKE A BREAK

from your hectic holiday schedule to relax & enjoy a rejuvenating massage. CMT 6'4", 185, Asian Masseur Chuck 221-3477 before 9 p.m. ^{ES2}

2 MAN MASSAGE

A warm table, two great looking men, four powerful hands and you. A two man massage team with real looks—real muscle. SF's most creative duo is equipped and ready! Call Muscle Endowment Bill and Bill 929-1222 \$60 ^{ES3}

FOR A REAL MAN'S
Massage/Marin \$30 457-5795 ^{ES3}

All men 50+. Best \$35 massage. Great! Nick 552-5059 ^{ES3}

EROTIC FULL BODY MASSAGE

By Bearded Daddy Lay Back & Get Worked On Certified Masseur Rabs (415) 431-1329 ^{ES3}

773-8752 Daniel **BUTT & TIT MASTER** ^{ES2}

New in the Castro Certified Oil Massage \$45/90 minutes Gary 252-0675 ^{ES2}

Cute Young CMT with Warm Heart, Strong Hands, Gives Sensual, Nurturing rubs to gentle men. Kyle 752-6334 ^{ES2}

HO! HO! HO!

Season's Greetings from S.F. Legend. Smooth, trim Musclr Magic Lips & Hands In/out Hotels "JJ" 708-3555 ^{ES2}

Erotic 4 hands massage Done in the nude by 2 caring warm sensual guys 822-3534 ^{ES3}

HANS

NORWEGIAN MAN
Extraordinary handsome, 33, 6', 195 lb, great tan body friendly masseur I am, I give 1 1/2 hr super massage in nude; Japan Center \$45/55 24 hours. **292-2373** ^{ES2}

PROFESSIONAL MASSAGE

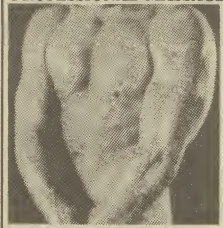


Photo Credit: Steve Savage

IT'S HARD

To find a great masseuer

Look no further, you've found one in me. I'm an ext. handsome, 5'10", 200lb. bodybuilder who will give you a superior, full body massage. Call Robert when you want a professional bodyworker.

567-6015, 24hrs.

LOST FOR WORDS

Pretty man hung 9", 6', 195, B/Builder, blond, blue, nice big hands, hot lotion rub. GREAT FOR SHY TYPES

ADAM 474-8027
\$50in/\$65out

VERY HANDSOME, VERY SEXY, VERY WELL BUILT, 6'1", 190 LB. ANGELIC BEING SENT FROM UP ABOVE NEEDS AND WANTS THE COMPANY OF AN OLDER GENTLEMAN RAYMOND 673-1755

SENSUOUS MASSAGE

Good Looking athletic masseur. Treat yourself to a professional, **luxurious** massage. Hot tub in garden. **MAGICAL** techniques, to make you feel like a new born baby. Discreet. In/\$50 Out/\$65 Major Hotels Mark 773-2953 **MELT AWAY**.....

ASIAN

Masseur offers luxurious Swedish bodywork. Strong hands, warm heart, caring and sensitive. Rick 621-7342 Cert. \$40-hr. (In) Castro Loc. ^{ES2}

FRIENDLY & DISCREET
Gentle to deep tissue by stronghandsome man \$40 6'3" 210# Patrick 255-3086 ^{ES2}

Very cute, boyish, 22 yo blond/blue/tan/smooth **HOT NUDE MASSAGE** 24 hrs. 905-4548 Lv# \$80/up ^{E02}

Specialist in muscular pain reduction. Non-sexual. C.M.T. Castro location. Alan 558-9038 \$40/60 Mins. ^{ES3}

\$30 Erotic Massage

★ Bill 441-1054. Hot! ★ ^{E02}

EROTIC

Hot oil massage. Castro. 75 min. \$50 in/\$65 out Rich 431-0959 ^{E02}

Nude mas by wl. built man 41 dwtnw 398-2441 24 hr Mark ^{E04}

Sensual massage cum re-ax with Dutch Boy. Call Bert at 621-8372 ^{ES2}

Hot Latin Sensual Massage by boyish 24 yo Mauricio 621-8372 ^{ES2}

EROTIC HANDS

Serious massage-complete Matt 267-4895 in or out. ^{ES2}

BLOND YOUNG GUY
To Massage Your Cares Away. In and Out. Call Jay (510) 839-9760 Oakland ^{ES2}

!X-MAS MASSAGE!

24y/o, Gr. eyes, swimmer body Well proportioned, Pre-Med Offers full body massage. Discrete/safe/honest. Minorities Encouraged. Page 698-CUTE ^{ES3}

EROTIC MASSAGE

1 1/2 Hrs.—\$40/In \$65/Out Older men welcome, Hotels 24 Hrs. (415) 346-4677 ^{ES2}

NUDE EROTIC

Handsome, friendly, built, 25 y/o ^{ES2}

Handsome, athletic, grad student offers transformative massage: Swedish, acupressure, sports massage, breathwork, deep tissue. Call 387-5150 for more info. ^{ES3}

MODELS & ESCORTS

Hot Bottom, Black & Built 390-9973 James ^{ES2}

HOT ITALIAN MAN
5'10", 170#, BRN/BRN **STRONG, SOLID & SEXY**
NATURALLY SMOOTH OLIVE SKIN HONEST, THICK, UNCUT 9" **\$100, 905-4563**

HUNG STUD!

(415) 431-4201 **11"x7" BIG COCK**
Handsome Young Black Stud Well Defined Swimmer's Body. 5'10", 160 lbs., 29" Waist 24 Hrs. In/Out. Ask For Syd Pgr. (415) 923-8961 ^{ES2}

People and Personals

MODELS & ESCORTS

X-LONG X-THICK TOP
HANDSOME WELL BUILT
Clean Cut
EASY GOING TOPMAN
Vince 708-0377 \$75

HOT ITALIAN
SERV. SF/MARIN/E.BAY
New in town, 26, 6'2", 185
tan, trim and muscular.
Hung 8 1/2" & thick, big balls
will help you satisfy your
wants and desires. For an intense
time ph. Anthony
at (415) 861-9728. Ext. 305
Pager (415) 597-3617 E50

BIG IRISH
bdybldr-big AND tall
handsome dark irish
hung AND hard
not to forget
255-9615 BRAD

Pro top delivers for bottoms
in need. Oversexed hairy
& hung. Mike 821-1477 E02

6'4" 195# handsome, hairy
X-Army Sgt. Chuck 431-1579 E04

MASCULINE SWED
Tall, hairy hung, blue eyed
blond 24 hrs. Steve 861-5827 E01

9 DO IT!!!
9
9
7
5
1
0
2
mr stik

JUST ARRIVED

HOT - SMOOTH - BUILT
ALL AMERICAN
5'9" 165 lbs
Brn. Hair, Blue Eyes
26 yr.

GREG 739-4668



Hairy Chest, Legs, Ass, Face
Hot Arab Dancer
28, 160#, 5'11", Hot 703-7142 E52

COLT MODEL
54C, 19A, 30W. Ron 749-7682 E52



ASIAN BOY TOY



Pager - 560-1480 - Cliff

PLAY GUY MODEL



JULIAN 665-3645

Ex-New York Chippendale

New In Town

Bodybuilder. Tanned Body.

5'10" - 175 - 26 inch waist

Long Dark Hair

Blue eyes XXX Hot

pgr. 560-0404

26 y/o, defined, nice
face, butt, 8" x 6", 135 lbs.
5'6". 928-6393 E10

JIOVANNI

Hot Young Italian/Spanish
5'10", 160, Smooth lite S/M
In/Out - Will Travel
(415) 703-7164 E52

HUNG LIKE A HORSE
Ital. Stallion br/br 5'8"
Fat tool - stud looks/built.
Johnny (415) 708-0377 \$75. E52

SEXY HOMBRE!

Friendly-godlooking stud
Hot stud-super-endowed
thick power tool. Low hangers.
Mack 560-9596 \$80.00 E52

Washington DC APRIL 25, 1993

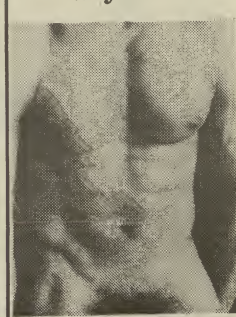


**DON'T MISS
THIS ONE!**

DAVID 63 195 Lbs.



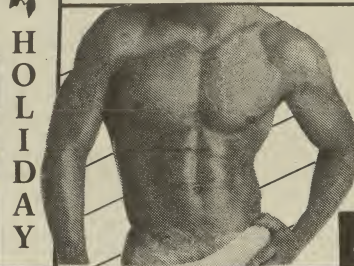
Dan 753-8604
-anytime-



SALE \$ 80



Dec.
10-31st



25, 5'10",
165 lbs.
Extremely
Attractive
Blonde Hair
Blue Eyes
Smooth, Hard
Tan, Defined
Unbelievable
Ass

KYLE
905-6446

Incredibly
HOT
Incredibly
HUNG



**Derek
Moore**

26, 5'9", 150#
br/br, 8 1/2 x 6
Tight smooth
gymnast build

(415) 554-0582

Cute 20 y/o athl. 5'8" 145 lbs.
smooth does what U want
\$70 Call Jim 456-1799 E53

HANDSOME MAN
6'3" 190# masc hairy blond
hung big nuts big butt
24 hrs. CAL 431-8209 E53

Superhung thick top. Friendly.
Delivers excellent.
Choking and poking. 24 hrs.

#1 in S.F.

Craig \$80 (415) 560-9596 E52

"A condom or a casket" E52

Size 10 1/2 - Sean Bpr. 809-6940
FOOT FETISH! E52

SEXY GUY

Hung 9" and the hottest



775-4771 • 24 hrs.



PORN DADDY
STAR OF GIANTS, ROOM
SERVICE, PLAYGIRL ...
ZACK 771-2073

(408) 741-5376 EXEC LEVEL SERVICE!
DAVE THE MASSEUR
(408) 741-5376
MAN TO MAN
SENSUAL MASSAGE
OF SILICON VALLEY
SPECS: 34, 6', 185#, BRN-HR, BLU-EYES,
CLN-SHVN, 42" HRY-CHST, 24" W-HR, ES-
GUNS: HOT-PECS - DAVE (408) 741-5376

HOT MOUTH

HUNGRY DUDE LIKES
TO BE FORCE FED
Attractive*26 yrs*Hung
Afternoon & repeat discounts
JEFF 255-0731

TOTAL WORSHIP

B.A.R.
classifieds
get results!!
Call
(415) 861-5019

BUFFED BLONDE



CODY 621-7147

PAGER 267-2658



BRITISH BODYBUILDING CHAMPION
5'11" 224 lbs. Ripped \$100

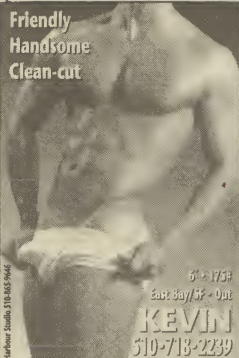
GAGE: 626-7860 PGR: 207-7153



People and Personals

MODELS & ESCORTS

Friendly Handsome Clean-cut



6'1" 175#
Cut day/OF - Out
KEVIN
510-713-2339

Want to JO at High Noon? Why wait till the evening — Circle J Cinema, 369 Ellis St., 10 a.m. to Midnite daily. ^{ES}

HOT BOTTOM

24 Y.O. BLOND offers full service to men who demand the best
24 hrs out only
Tollfree pager
(510) 801-5773
Justin

HOT HOT HOT HOT SEXY ATHLETIC BOY
24 yrs. 9" 24 hours
Adam 255-0614

A FISTFUL FOR SMALL CHANGE!!
Ex-hung stud with dirty talk — spanking — gagged — spread you open — mouthwatering thick rod!!!
Every call checked #207-5155
ROB \$80 24 HRS.

HOT YOUNG DUDE
Masculine • Hung • Tattoos
23 y.o. • Verbal • Dominant
and one helluva guy
Clay 864-0670

S.F. STUD



handsome, friendly, boy nextdoor.
TIM
905.5828
25yr. 6' 2" brown blue 8"

SWEET ASIAN
Hndsm • Healthy • Smooth body
Xlent Masaj 824-6151 AXEL^{ES2}
LONGXXXTHICK
Home for the Holidays, 34, 9x7, Extremely handsome too. Fun "Older Men Welcome"
\$100/in \$125/out Rod 864-4010 ^{ES2}

THIK-DIK DAD HAS 9"
Masc 36/\$60 Out 346-4993 ^{ES3}

Football Uniform Fantasy!
Helmet, pads, jersey, jock!
QB Type — 7 1/2", Bpr. 809-6940 ^{ES2}

9" x 6" Video/Magazine Star
AUSTIN BLACK
6'1", 170#, Creole Top
XMA's Discounts 12/14-28/92
Will Travel 708-6300 ^{ES2}

WARNING!

Don't Be Fooled
SF's Hottest New Videostar
Steve Maverick
6'0", 180, Smooth
pgr.# 804-3962 ^{ES2}

Handsome, Exhibitionist
GWM, Tall, 32, Shows off cut
9" x 7", X-thick, likes J/O, Porno
Uncuts and is laidback
out only. Dan 495-7650 \$80 ^{ES2}

JO ACTION at the
Circle J Cinema
369 Ellis — 10 a.m. to Midnite
Every Day. Join in! ^{ES}

Happy Holidays from The B.A.R.


CAL BOY



23, 5'10", 160
Eric
Bpr: (415) 998-9898

Bikerstud — horsehung top!!
UNCUT STUD
Horny oversexed, masculine
Anthony \$80. (415) 207-5155 ^{ES2}

☆ **SOUTHBAY** ☆
Muscle. X-handsome 29 y/o
Bodybuilder, 165#, 42" C, 32" W
Brn/Bl. Description GTD. Out
2nd, B/B, Avail (415) 560-0034 ^{ES2}



JASON
175 lbs., 5' 8 1/2", 46" C, 29" W
864-2070 • \$115

BOY IN BOOTS
Young Hung Punk
MATT 552-2497

9x6 TOP
Very handsome man well built clean cut big dick big balls guaranteed hot stud
26 yr 185 6 ft br/br
\$80 in/\$100 out 24 hrs.
KURT 928-6322

GET IT NOW!
Muscle Stud with 8" Big Legs and great butt
Jim 24 hrs. 915-1235 ^{ES2}

TOP THIS!
WELL-BUILT HANDSOME EX-MILITARY MAN
LUKE 552-0453 ^{ES2}

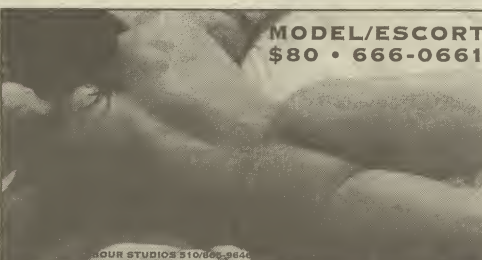
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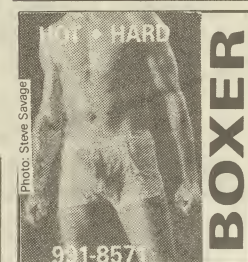
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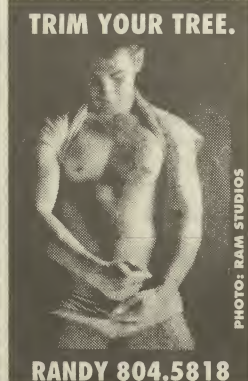


931-8571 **BOXER**

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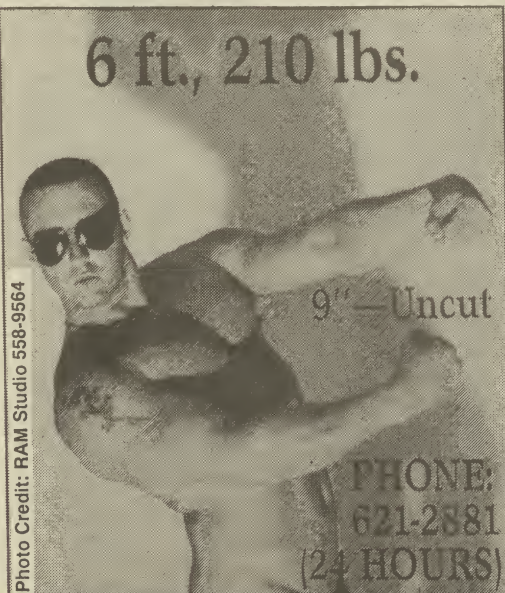
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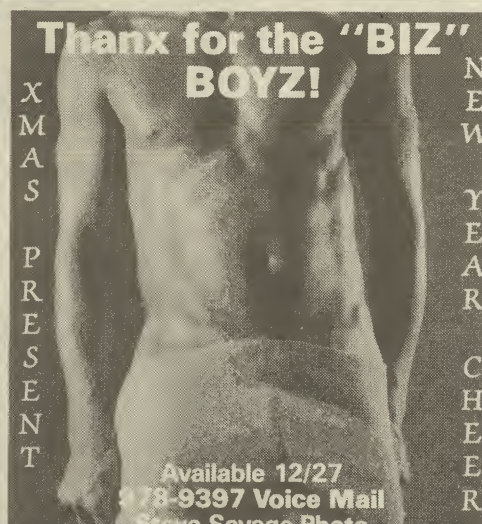
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6 ft., 210 lbs.



9" — Uncut
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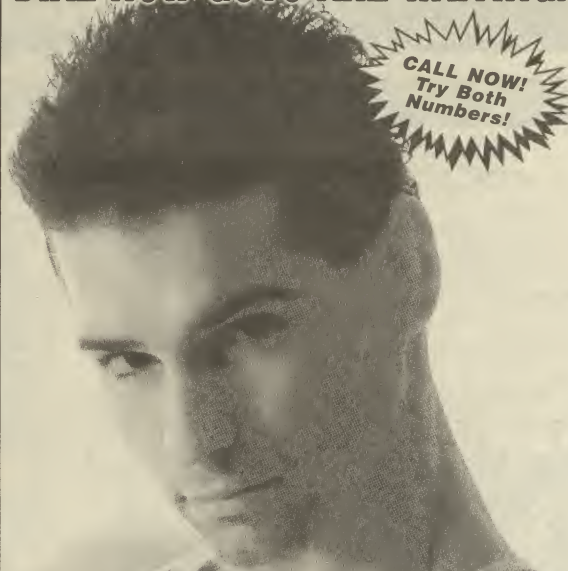
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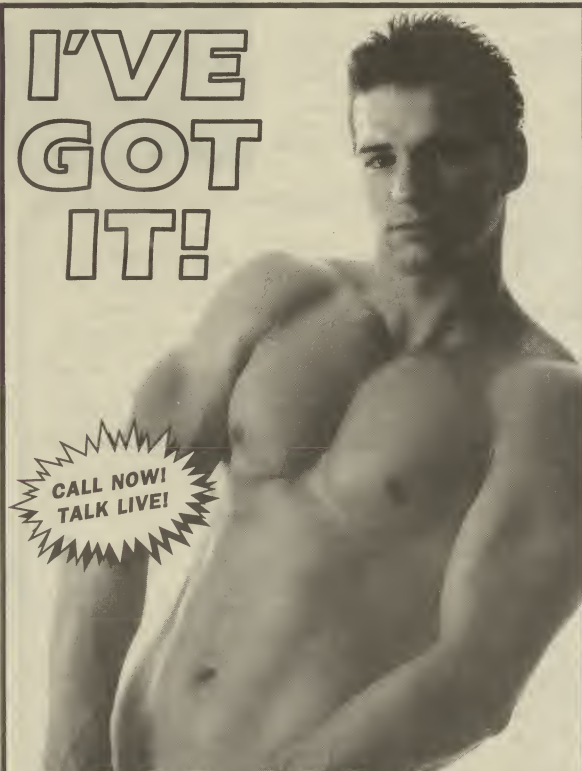
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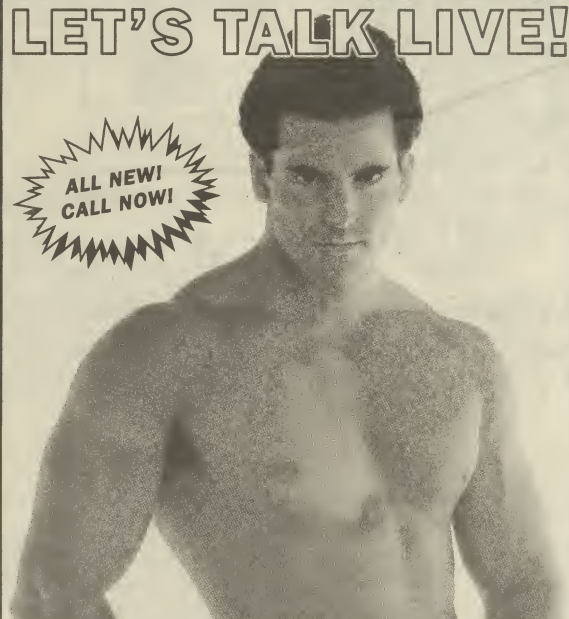
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